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Continued Reportage on Group of Rio Meeting

PA0412155591 Santa Fe de Bogota Inravision Television Cadena 2 in Spanish 0000 GMT 4 Dec 91

[Report by Amparo Ponton in Cartagena]

[Text] The Group of Rio meeting ended on 3 December. Integration among the Group of Rio countries has been translated into policies on the economy, free trade zones, and a common market. They also agreed on policies dealing with drug trafficking, the defense of Indians, and the environment. It is not clear if this integration also includes foreign policy.

Although the Group of Rio issued a joint statement addressing the issue of Cuba in which it reiterated respect for the principles of nonintervention and free determination, the press has learned that the positions within the group continue to create problems. The meeting that led to this statement, which also expressed hope for a democratic process in Cuba, again confronted the Group of Three—Colombia, Venezuela, and Mexico. These countries continue to maintain their position favoring mediation rather than exerting pressure on Cuba, while Argentina and Uruguay support exerting pressure.

[Begin Colombian President Gaviria recording] The statement seeks the objective of obtaining reforms in Cuba. This is what we are willing to do for the time being. Each country has its own policy on the Cuban issue. [end recording]

A dialogue between Cuba and the countries of the continent, within a climate of detente, would be the next step in the search for peaceful solutions.

Cuba was not the only issue that caused debate in the Group of Rio. Haiti was also a big issue. The 13 countries of the permanent mechanism for consultation rejected the electoral process announced by the Haitian coup leaders and warned that they will not accept the results if those elections are held.

[Begin Gaviria recording] The Group of Rio statement supports OAS efforts and resolutions. We have reiterated our will and desire for the respect of constitutional order in Haiti and to have President Jean-Bertrand Aristide return to the Presidency. [end recording]

In political terms, integration has not yet been consolidated. In fact, there are domestic situations in countries such as Venezuela that might delay integration. Nevertheless, President Carlos Andres Perez denied all rumors about a coup. He also voiced optimism and confidence about the integration of the Andean Group, which will hold a meeting in Cartagena on 3 December.

[Begin Perez recording] This is perhaps the most pleasant news I can give you. There is no longer just rhetoric concerning the Andean Pact. There is already a free Andean market. In the meeting we will hold on 3 December, we will probably approve the external common tariff. [end recording]

The meeting of the Andean Group countries will end on 4 December.

Concern Over Cuba Noted

PA0412164691 Mexico City Red Nacional 13 Imevision Television in Spanish 1300 GMT 4 Dec 91

[Text] The Group of Rio meeting in Colombia has concluded. In a joint communique issued at the conclusion, the presidents state they are convinced that it is necessary to back all efforts directed at the promotion of democracy, liberty, and progress of the people of the region in the framework of respect for the principles of nonintervention and free determination.

The presidents stated their deep concern over the situation and the future of sisterly Cuba. They stressed their willingness to fully cooperate so that that nation may secure peace, justice, liberty, democracy, respect for human rights, and open and free economic development.

The presidents stated their hope that the Cuban Government will be able to reach the political, economic, and social goals that would allow that sisterly and noble nation to secure these objectives as well as their much wished for reinstatement into the inter-American system.

The chiefs of state of the Group of Rio want Cuba to be able to return to the inter-American system in the framework of the OAS.

The chiefs of state point out in the communique that they are certain that a renovated dialogue between Cuba and the countries of the entire continent, in a climate of detente, will facilitate the implementation of changes that will help resolve pending problems on the basis of international law.

What is in mind here, of course, is U.S.-Cuban relations.

[Reporter Pereira, live from Cartagena] At the conclusion of their separate meetings in Cartagena, the Group of Rio and the Group of Three declared Latin America is finding the road that leads to world order, convinced that confrontations or antagonism will not be the approach the world will follow.

The Group of Three has opened the possibility of increased cooperation. The countries of this group reviewed the progress they have made in the framework of their cooperation in the fields of commerce, energy, telecommunications, sea and air transportation, finances, culture, tourism, the environment, and the situation in Central America and the Caribbean.

Both the Group of Three and the Group of Rio found they had more points of agreement than of difference in essential matters.

Hyperinflation has gone down in Latin America, fiscal adjustments have been consolidated, capital is being repatriated, foreign investments in the region have increased, and progress has been made in the renegotiation of the foreign debt and the creation of free trade and common market zones. The member countries are interested in the trilateral treaty between Mexico, the United States, and Canada being implemented in a well-balanced and equitable way. The countries of these groups committed themselves to continue struggling against drug-trafficking, money laundering, and weapons smuggling. They decided to work on a strategy in favor of the environment and development. They called on the industrial countries to set aside practices that do not contribute to open international economic relations. They will maintain a political dialogue with the United States for the full implementation of the Americas Initiative in the areas of debt, commerce, and investments.

[Begin Colombian President Cesar Gaviria recording] We do want a formal organization with permanent and [word indistinct] institutions. The Group of Rio has served to have an open, frank, and fruitful dialogue among the presidents of Latin America and as a forum in which to discuss the problems of Latin America and to find points of agreement. [end recording]

Chilean, Bolivian Presidents Hold Meeting

PY0412020891 Santiago Television Nacional de Chile Network in Spanish 2330 GMT 3 Dec 91

[By unidentified special correspondents from Cartagena, Colombia]

[Excerpt] The presidents of Bolivia and Chile, Jaime Paz Zamora and Patricio Aylwin, respectively, met for approximately 15 minutes today. This was a private meeting to which the press had no access.

[Begin recording] [Unidentified reporter] Did you discuss the sea outlet issue?

[Paz] We talked about our overall relations, about all issues of common interest to both countries. Just bear in mind...

[Second unidentified reporter, interrupting] But this particular issue...?

[Paz, continuing] Just bear in mind that we are making a great effort and investing $50 million to build a highway to Chile. Undoubtedly we have to discuss this; how can we fail to do so?

[Aylwin] Whenever two people talk, there are agreements and disagreements, and some progress. [end recording] [passage omitted]

Peruvian, Ecuadoran Presidents Hold Talks

PA0412125891 Lima Global de Television Network in Spanish 0100 GMT 4 Dec 91

[Report by Oscar Bravo from Cartagena, Colombia]

[Text] Good evening Peru, it is exactly 2020 here in Cartagena de Indias. This is a scoop from the "Direct Line" newscast: The first meeting between President Alberto Fujimori and his Ecuadoran counterpart Rodrigo Borja ended only five minutes ago.

After meeting for two hours, the dignitaries said they had a direct discussion. The most important thing to highlight was the qualitative progress achieved. Alberto Fujimori voiced his gratitude for the acceptance of his dialogue proposal. President Borja said that it was a friendly, important, and historic meeting. It is the first in the entire history [words indistinct]. New meetings will be held whenever necessary.

Foreign Minister Augusto Blacker Miller and Ecuadoran Foreign Minister Diego Cordovez attended the meeting. They presented positions and ideas and discussed the friendship between the two countries, President Fujimori said. He announced that the military leaders of the two countries will meet with the same spirit of friendship and cooperation.

Borja said that great progress was achieved. The two presidents were very cheerful and made statements to the media. Fujimori expressed the hope that the next presidential meeting will be before 15 January, the date when the Rio Protocol was signed.

President Fujimori said that he will expedite the intensification of bilateral relations. He called for the solution of differences through prudent means within a legal framework. He pointed out that they will try to create an atmosphere of trust and detente with the smallest expenditure on weapons. Instead of weapons, we should develop common aspects, such as the Puyambo-Tumbo projects, he added.

The Peruvian president invited the family of President Borja to visit Machu Picchu. Fujimori added that he made the invitation to reciprocate Borja's invitation to Susana Iguchi Fujimori and his four children to visit his country. The invitation was immediately accepted by the Ecuadoran president who voiced his joy for his family's upcoming visit to our country.

Borja said that this was an important dialogue, but admitted there were friendly disagreements. Alberto Fujimori said that new and better times will come, despite these friendly disagreements.

Journalists, after witnessing an effusive handshake and embrace between the two dignitaries, which is a very unusual sight at international meetings of this nature, applauded to close this meeting between the dignitaries of Peru and Ecuador.

History has marked 3 December as the date for the Borja-Fujimori summit, for the Peru-Ecuador summit here in Cartagena de Indias.

Andean Group Summit Continues in Cartagena

PA0512034791 Santa Fe de Bogota Inravision Television Cadena 2 in Spanish 0000 GMT 5 Dec 91

[Report by Amparo Ponton from Cartagena, Colombia]

[Text] Five presidents are attending the Andean Group summit, which continues in Cartagena, Colombia. The convention center's Barahona Four room is all ready for the news conference they are supposed to give in a few minutes, but the presidents continue to hold their meeting.

Following the official agenda of the presidential summit, the Andean Group had virtually no problems discussing noncontroversial topics such as reforms to the group's institutions, strengthening of the Andean judicial court, and the joint struggle against drug trafficking.

[Begin Venezuelan President Carlos Andres Perez recording] I am President Bush's spokesman before the Andean Pact Group as far as drug problems are concerned. We agreed that each president is to appoint a personal representative who will dedicate his time to discuss with President Bush's representative all the topics and goals discussed at the conference. [end recording]

Other topics, on the other hand, demanded greater discussion. Of the 25 points on the official agenda, five points created difficulties for the presidents and foreign trade ministers. One example is the point dealing with a common tariff.

[Begin Ecuadoran President Rodrigo Borja recording] One example is setting a minimum and maximum tariff limit. Another example concerns the conditions in which our countries may make deals with third countries and grant them preferential tariffs. These are just some of the points we have not agreed upon yet, but we hope to resolve them with goodwill and with the integrationist conviction that characterizes all the presidents here . [end recording]

The talks had two very special characteristics. The first is that whereas the five presidents very diplomatically always tried to reach a consensus, the foreign trade ministers always expressed their differences from technical points of view and usually never reached a consensus. The second characteristic is that each country had a thorny issue that it opposed. For example, regarding the common tariff, Peru opposed it and made a counterproposal. The exemption topic found Ecuador and Bolivia seeking ways to protect themselves. Regarding copyright laws, Ecuador stood alone. Colombia, on the other hand, was noted for its negotiating prowess.

The "Noticiero de las Siete" newscast has learned that the following agreements have been reached: Beginning 1 January, a free zone will begin work and will have a single customs system and a common tariff that will tax products from third countries at 5, 10, 15, and 20 percent. Beginning in 1993, there will be no more export incentives. Beginning in 1995, established exemptions will be eliminated. In addition, Andean Group countries will create a mechanism to avoid competition and will continue to protect their agricultural products.

Cuba

Havana Notes Chief of Staff Sununu Resignation

FL0412143891 Havana Tele Rebelde Network in Spanish 1200 GMT 4 Dec 91

[Text] Today, Washington announced that John Sununu, White House chief of staff, resigned from his position. Sununu explained that the reason for his resignation was that he did not want to continue putting President George Bush in tight spots just before the election period.

Observers in the District of Columbia point out that criticism directed towards Bush from within the Republican Party will diminish with Sununu's resignation from the presidential team. Circles within the Grand Old Party [three preceding words in English] consider that the decline in Bush's popularity, reflected in recent surveys, is due in a large part to Sununu's unfortunate actions in the sphere of domestic policy. Sununu has been labeled as arrogant and as an autocrat with a conspiratorial mentality. According to the opinion of analysts, these are qualities that did not favor the eventual reelection of President Bush.

Shevardnadze, Cabrisas Meet, Analyze Ties

FL0512015991 Havana Tele Rebelde and Cuba Vision Networks in Spanish 0100 GMT 5 Dec 91

[Text] Soviet Foreign Minister Eduard Shevardnadze met today with Cuban Foreign Trade Minister Ricardo Cabrisas, who is in Moscow on a working visit. During the meeting, they analyzed specific problems in Soviet-Cuban relations. The two officials devoted great attention to the prospects for the development of bilateral economic and trade ties, within the context of the major changes that have been occurring in the USSR.

According to TASS, both officials expressed their mutual interest in accelerating economic and trade cooperation on a truly balanced and mutually advantageous basis. They also stressed the need for a more active development of Cuba's economic ties with the sovereign republics and in the search for new forms of economic interaction in line with international practice.

Castro Says Invasion of Island Would Be Costly

PA0412204191 Paris AFP in Spanish 1658 GMT 4 Dec 91

[Text] Mexico City, 4 Dec (AFP)—EL SOL DE MEXICO has published an interview with President Fidel Castro of Cuba in which the Cuban leader states: "We have created the conditions to make the United States pay an unpayable price if it tries to invade our country." He noted: "We have developed our own war doctrine, the concept of an all people's war" but "nobody wants a war, not even a victorious war."

Castro said: "We are not interested in paying a very high price to reject military aggression" by the United States, but Cuba's "all people's war" concept goes from the struggle against a "total blockade" to the struggle "in a totally occupied country."

The Cuban leader said that the Soviet decision to withdraw the military unit it has maintained in Cuba since the 1962 October crisis was "a gratuitous and unnecessary concession" to the United States that has contributed to bolster the "aggressiveness and arrogance" of that country.

The withdrawal "means a weakening of Cuba's security and increases the danger of aggression from the United States," which "feeling arrogant, aroused, and encouraged by that concession, will be further stimulated to conduct acts of aggression."

"We have said that we agree with the simultaneous withdrawal of both the Soviet military unit and the U.S. Naval Base of Guantanamo, which is located in our territory against the sovereign will of the country," said Castro.

He noted: "That Soviet brigade has moral and military importance." He continued: "We do not want to create unsolvable problems. We have stated our position to accept the withdrawal of that unit with a commitment on the withdrawal of the naval base in Guantanamo."

The Cuban leader explained that the economic problems of the USSR "are so serious at this moment that it needs help from the West and the United States, which "has been placed conditions on that aid and exerted pressure on the Soviet Union to cease its economic and military cooperation with Cuba."

Castro affirmed that "there is already an exodus of civilian experts as a result of the situation in the Soviet Union." Castro appeared concerned about "the future of the Soviet Union and this union of sovereign states they are talking about."

Castro Proposes Latin American Integration

PA0512011091 Mexico City NOTIMEX in Spanish 1930 GMT 3 Dec 91

[Text] Mexico City, 3 Dec (NOTIMEX)—Cuban President Fidel Castro has proposed to the Latin American countries that they integrate politically and economically in a process of development and independence.

In the second part of an interview granted to a Mexican newspaper, Castro said the United States wants to convert the Latin American countries "into instruments of its economic advancement and political interests." Castro said his proposal is a challenge, "and the objective and the goal are truly grand."

In his opinion, the Ibero-American countries made a show of independence when they held the first Ibero-American summit last July in Guadalajara, in western

Mexico. "There had never before been a meeting of Latin Americans called by Latin Americans," Castro said. He described the summit as "historic."

Castro also said that prior to the changes that occurred in the USSR, Cuba had "very favorable" trade relations with that country, which he considered to be an example for underdeveloped countries that want to advance.

Castro said the U.S. blockade caused technological setbacks in production areas, but these were offset by the promotion of scientific research.

Castro said that Latin America still has time to integrate into a bloc of world influence because of its great potential. He said Latin America does "not have to kneel and beg for its rights and aspirations to be taken into account."

He expressed his interest in having diplomatic relations with European countries which, he said, have achieved greater development than the Latin American nations.

Castro said that in Central America today there are rulers "with greater ability and experience than in the past, when the governments were full of corruption and injustice and when it was not possible to maintain control of the economy."

He said relations with El Salvador might change with the signing of a permanent cease-fire agreement that is being negotiated in Mexico City. He added that with Nicaragua, "relations remain normal."

Castro said that in Guadalajara, Chilean President Patricio Aylwin was "serious, noble, and decent in his statements," and President Joaquin Balaguer of the Dominican Republic "made a brilliant and very cultured presentation."

He said that it is currently very difficult to distinguish between the right and the left, "because I see a lot of rightists doing leftist things, and vice versa."

Castro said the United States continues to use its power over the media to distort the facts about Cuba.

Havana on Gorbachev's Union Treaty Efforts

FL0412193591 Havana Radio Reloj Network in Spanish 1504 GMT 4 Dec 91

[Text] Soviet President Mikhail Gorbachev has sent a message to the parliamentarians of the 12 republics of that country where he urges them to urgently sign a political union treaty. During a news conference, Gorbachev's spokesman stressed that it is the only way of getting the USSR out of the present crisis and to avoid a social catastrophe. The message will be read by Soviet President Gorbachev tonight.

Additionally, the heads of government of the participating republics of the former Soviet Union, are determined to implement a unified policy of taxes with the objective, as they explained it, to find a common economic area. However, there are still discrepancies as to the liberalization of prices, which goes into effect on 16 December, since many believe that the USSR is not yet ready for that measure.

Scientific Cooperation With Mexico To Increase

FL0412150791 Havana Tele Rebelde Network in Spanish 1200 GMT 4 Dec 91

[Text] Mexico City—Fabio Alsati, director general of Mexico's National Council for Science and Technology, has said that during the coming year cooperation projects between Mexico and Cuba will increase significantly. During the opening ceremony of the 14th meeting of the Joint Commission of Scientific and Technical Cooperation held in Mexico, Alsati indicated that the parties will be analyzing 207 projects of cooperation, which reveals a significant increase in relation to 87 proposals discussed last year.

Ernesto Melendez, Cuban minister president of the State Committee for Economic Cooperation, pointed out the need of promoting and facilitating the process for scientific and technical research and making its results felt in production and trade.

CECE Delegation, Doctors Arrive in Namibia

FL0512023091 Havana Tele Rebelde and Cuba Vision Networks in Spanish 0100 GMT 4 Nov 91

[Text] A delegation, headed by Comrade Noemi Benitez, vice president of the State Committee for Economic Cooperation [CECE], has traveled to the Republic of Namibia to head the first session of scientific and economic cooperation between Cuba and Namibia, in light of the cooperation accord signed last March. Eleven Cuban doctors also traveled to this friendly nation to provide their services. This brings the number of internationalist workers in the country to 65, of which 55 are medical personnel.

Role of Radioactive Waste Treatment Plant Viewed

FL0412204991 Havana Radio Rebelde Network in Spanish 0000 GMT 4 Dec 91

[Interview with Gustavo Chavez, doctor of chemistry and researcher for the Executive Secretariat for Nuclear Affairs, by correspondent Heidi Gonzalez in Havana—live]

[Text] [Begin recording] [Gonzalez] We are talking with Gustavo Chavez on the role of radiological protection at the various hospitals, and research and production centers where radioactive substances are commonly used. For many, the subject is exciting and with reason, that is precisely why we are speaking with Dr. Gustavo specifically about the radioactive waste treatment plant. Could you pick up your explanation which we started a minute ago?

[Chavez] Sure, Heidi. The Executive Secretariat for Nuclear Affairs recently inaugurated in Arroyo Naranjo Municipality here in Havana City the radioactive waste treatment plant designed to treat all the waste products that have been or are being produced in organizations which use nuclear technologies, and as a consequence, produce this type of waste product. This is a very serious problem for the radiology profession. This plant can guarantee the supervised collection and the treatment and storage of these waste products at this installation.

[Gonzalez] Doctor, I understood that the technology used in this plant was all Cuban, is that so?

[Chavez] Yes, it is Cuban because since 1979 a group of specialists from this institution have worked on a series of research projects, developing the plans which gave rise to this kind of technology. This plant was conceived as a result of this research. In 1984, it was possible to collect a group, a considerable volume of these waste products, approximately a cubic meter, guaranteeing appropriate storage. Additionally, this research allowed for the study of an abundant, cheap material, known by (?radiologists) and Cubans who work in this field. It has extensive applications in different spheres of the economy in our country and in the nuclear energy sphere. It has a very useful application, specifically for the decontamination of radioactive substances and the conversion of these wastes to a solid, stable, secure state for transportation and long-term storage.

[Gonzalez] Doctor, who developed the plant?

[Chavez] A group of enterprises built and made possible this installation. Thanks to them this was possible, the technology projects as well as the civil construction and assembly. Those that could be mentioned for outstanding contributions are the Ignacio Agramonte Industrial Military Enterprise, the Emilio Barcena Pier Industrial Military Enterprise, and the Yuriy Gagarin Industrial Military Enterprise. They are all part of the Armed Forces Ministry which guaranteed the construction of all the fundamental equipment, including over 40 pieces of technical equipment. Also the Military Enterprise for Research Projects and the Military Construction Directorate of four enterprises which guaranteed civil construction and technical assembly. Also outstanding were the contributions of the Sugar Project Institute, the Industrial Automation Design Enterprise of the Sugar Industry Ministry, and the Nuclear Affairs provincial workshop in Havana City, which guaranteed the assembly of automation equipment in the plant, which covers almost 95 percent of the work.

[Gonzalez] Doctor, very quickly because we are almost out of time, can you summarize, in two or three words, the basic purpose of the plant, so that our listeners understand?

[Chavez] Of course. The plant is important because as I initially said, our country is currently implementing nuclear services in various hospitals, research centers, and laboratories that generate waste products, and they do not have the facilities to protect the environment. This plant guarantees the control, that is, the appropriate treatment and storage of these wastes. It also presents the possibility of building, especially in the future, other nuclear installations which have been proposed as part of the Cuban nuclear program, as well as the Juragua nuclear plant.

[Gonzalez] Well, Doctor, as I said earlier, the subject is of great national interest so that our people know the advances and developments in this field, but we are now out of time. Thank you for your attention.

Gas Ration Cards Available; Deliveries Cut

FL0412204091 Havana Radio Rebelde Network in Spanish 1319 GMT 4 Dec 91

[Text] Today, the gas stations that sell to the public began distributing ration cards for the month of December. Rations have not been reduced despite the instability of foreign supplies. Orlando Prado, chief of the Plan Control Department for the Fuel Union, informed the NATIONAL NEWS AGENCY that automobile owners may begin to use their regular quotas or their monthly quotas whenever they choose even though the expiration date is indicated as 1 December.

These supplies are part of the priority effort for the private sector only. In the case of the public sector, ration cards are valid for one month once they are stamped by the ration card agencies. In December the amount of deliveries had to be cut by 50 percent in comparison to the November totals.

In both cases the distribution system will remain fully in effect during the special period and will continue as long as foreign deliveries permit, according to a specialist from the Fuel Union at a unit of the Ministry of Basic Industry.

Enterprise Begins Building Oxen-Drawn Wagons

FL0412191091 Havana Radio Reloj Network in Spanish 1508 GMT 4 Dec 91

[Text] Workers at the Agricultural-Maritime Services Enterprise in Batabano have begun building 100 animal-pulled wagons for the harvesting of plantains in Havana Province farms. The enterprise uses wood for the construction of the wagons. The wagons will be pulled by oxen, which are tamed at the enterprise that produces various types of crops.

Pedro Guerra, deputy director of the enterprise, said that they will use rebuilt wheels from watering machines that exist at the agricultural enterprises. With the objective of saving fuel and guaranteeing fundamental agricultural activities, the Agricultural-Maritime Services Enterprise has increased coastal traffic along the southern coast from Pinar del Rio to Guantanamo as well as to the Isle of Youth and southern Cayo Largo.

Family Gardens Promoted in Santiago de Cuba

FL0412225091 Havana Radio Reloj Network in Spanish 2049 GMT 4 Nov 91

[Text] Members of the Committees for the Defense of the Revolution and of the Federation of Cuban Women in Santiago de Cuba Province are working to promote family gardens to increase self-sufficiency. These gardens consist mainly of tubers, vegetables, and other products.

Approximately a year-and-a-half ago, El Cristo, a town in Santiago de Cuba Municipality, began to collectively implement this project, and to-date, more than 100,000 backyards have been planted with plantains, rice, beans, lettuce, and tomatoes. The Santiago municipalities of Contramaestre, Songo la Maya, and Tercer Frente are ahead on this task and will be the first ones to cover 100 percent of the houses with potential for self-sufficiency. The Palma Soriano and Santiago Municipalities will have to intensify their efforts to overcome the difficulties encountered by not having many lots available for planting.

Sale of Seeds for Family Gardens Begins

FL0512015491 Havana Radio Reloj Network in Spanish 2041 GMT 4 Nov 91

[Text] The agrarian network has begun the sale of seeds for family gardens throughout the country. The availability of seed will increase during 1992. The inventory includes 17 kinds of seeds including peppers, green beans, cucumbers, melons, hot peppers, tomatoes, okra, carrots, radishes, spring onions, parsley, and smaller amounts of cabbage, lettuce, and onions, which have to be imported. By the end of November, 165,000 envelopes of vegetable seeds had been sold throughout the country. The envelopes, which weigh between 2 and 15 grams, contain soil requirements and general planting and harvesting instructions. The seeds can last up to two months if stored in a container in a dry location.

FAR Meeting Prepares for Spare Parts Forum

FL0512020691 Havana Tele Rebelde Network in Spanish 1800 GMT 4 Dec 91

[Text] The Revolutionary Armed Forces [FAR] scientific and technical forum continues its sessions today, during which 115 papers are being discussed. The best papers from this event will be selected to represent the FAR at the Sixth National Spare Parts Forum. Military and civilian workers have made their presentations on a high scientific and technical level. The purpose of the papers is to seek solutions to the problems with study materials in order to guarantee the training of personnel. They also analyze new ideas which will modernize combat technology and armament.

[Begin Ulises Rosales del Toro recording] None of the papers we have heard are completely theoretical, but rather, they are practical and have been tested, even [words indistinct] special period and even the Zero Option, on which the Armed Forces have been working for over a year. Our units are looking for solutions, not only for the special period, but for a more difficult, critical time. We do not know when that will be, and that is what we call Zero Option. This means zero fuel from the Soviet Union, which is very important to us right now, given the uncertainty which exists in the deliveries of [words indistinct]. [end recording]

Inter-Caribbean Affairs

Conference Delegates To Discuss Cuba, Haiti

FL0412161091 Bridgetown CANA in English 1445 GMT 4 Dec 91

[Text] Bridgetown, Barbados, Dec 4, CANA—Delegates from eight Caribbean countries, including Cuba, are expected to discuss a 30 year-old United States trade embargo against Havana Saturday. The Pan-African Movement of Barbados is organising the conference. It said the meeting will express solidarity with Cuba and support recent initiatives by Cuba and Trinidad and Tobago to have the embargo removed. The one-day conference will also discuss the political situation in Haiti.

Delegates are expected from St. Lucia, Dominica, Guadeloupe, Guyana, Grenada, Trinidad and Tobago, Cuba and the host country Barbados. The Pan-African Movement of Barbados said that the resolutions adopted at the conference will be forwarded to the United Nations, the Organisation of American States, and the Organisation of African Unity.

Grenada

Opposition Parties Prepare for Early Poll

FL0412183991 Bridgetown CANA in English 1803 GMT 4 Dec 91

[Text] St. George's, Grenada, Dec 4, CANA—Grenada's main opposition political parties are preparing for a general election, anticipated long before the constitutional deadline of 1995.

"... Clearly, the government's position is precarious, and because of this the government's position could become untenable at any time," former prime minister and leader of The National Party (TNP) Ben Jones said. Both the TNP and the New National Party [NNP] of former Communications And Works Minister Dr. Keith Mitchell have begun campaigning in earnest in anticipation of the polls.

Mitchell began a series of candlelight vigils in the constituencies of three former opposition politicians who crossed the floor to join the ruling National Democratic Congress (NDC). He said his action is to force the former opposition politicans to quit the government.

Jones said that his party has been "activating" itself by mobilising its constituency groups and affiliates. "I believe we are once again beginning to take shape, because the opposition parties must come to the comfort of the voting population," he said.

Meanwhile Jones has said that one of the three former opposition politicans who have joined the government is still an executive member of his TNP. Alleyne Walker, the junior minister of health, remained with the government against his party's wishes after Jones resigned over differences with the ruling administration on fiscal issues.

Jones would not comment on reports that he was developing an association with NNP's leader Dr. Mitchel ahead of the polls. "I wish to make no comment on that," he said.

Jones and Mitchell served in the cabinet of late Prime Minister Herbert Blaize. Mitchell was fired after he wrested the leadership of the New National Party from Blaize.

Haiti

Changes Within Army Noted; Cedras Only General

FL0412221891 Port-au-Prince LE NOUVELLISTE in French No. 34.193 3 Dec 91 pp 1,8

[Text]

Changes Within the Army.

Many officers of the Haitian Armed Forces [FADH] have been transferred following a decision from General Headquarters [G.Q.G.]: Colonel Joseph Gracien Delauney (G.2) has been transferred as military attache to the Haitian Embassy in Rome; Colonel Hebert Valmond has been transferred to head the Coordination and Assistance Office at the G.Q.G; Colonel Henri Max Mayard, FADH adjutant general, has been transferred from his previous position to the position of interim G-2; Colonel Carl Dorelien has replaced H. Max Mayard as new interim FADH adjutant general; Major Henri Pyram Germain has been transferred as commander of the Southeastern Department, replacing Major Marc Metellus, who is now head of the fourth office of the G.Q.G; Major Leopold Clairjeune has been named head of the National Intelligence Service (SIN); Major Claudel Josaphat has been transferred to the post of commander of the Western Military Department; Major Jean-Robert Rene has been transferred as director of the FADH supply center; Captain Patrick Bastien is the current commander of the Petionville district. He replaces Captain Jackson Joanis, who has been transferred to command of the 40th Company (Investigation and Anti-Gang Service). Captain Jacky Mitton has been transferred as duty officer at the Hinche Military Department.

We have learned from military sources that for the time being, there is only one high-ranking officer who will from now on hold the rank of general within the FADH. It is Raoul Cedras, FADH commander in chief, designated by the Senate for the next three years, in accordance with the Constitution.

Human Rights Mission Arrives in Port-au-Prince

PA0512011291 Paris AFP in Spanish 2256 GMT 4 Dec 91

[Text] Port-au-Prince, 4 Dec (AFP)—AFP has confirmed that a delegation of the Inter-American Human Rights Commission arrived in Port-au-Prince on the afternoon of 4 December.

The four-member mission, which will be in Haiti for three days, is led by Jamaican Patrick Robinson. They will investigate the violation of human rights before and after the bloody military coup that ousted President Jean-Bertrand Aristide on 30 September.

Rights Situation Worse Since Aristide Overthrow

FL0512020591 Port-au-Prince Radio Galaxie in French 1230 GMT 4 Dec 91

[Italicized passages in Creole]

[Excerpts] According to Bernard Menos Celestin, secretary general of the Lafontant Joseph Center for the Promotion of Human Rights, the situation of human rights in Haiti has been worsening since the overthrow of Father Jean-Bertrand Aristide on 30 September. Let us listen to a report by Millien Yvener for more details.

[Begin Yvner recording]*Within the scope of our meetings with the human rights organizations in Haiti, we have received today, 3 December, Bernard Menos Celestin, secretary general of the Lafontant Joseph Center. In an interview with Radio Galaxie, Celestin said he has noted that the human rights situation has been deteriorating since Father Jean-Bertrand Aristide's departure. The situation of human rights in Haiti has reached a level that it never reached before. He went on to say he has noted that many people have been beaten, that people have been arrested without arrest warrants. The secretary general of the Lafontant Joseph Center added that currently there is no progress in human rights and that, on the contrary, they are deteriorating. [passage omitted]*

Concerning the students who were arrested at the Faculty of Sciences on 12 November, Celestin wonders where those students were [words indistinct] and where they found the cars whose windshields they were accused of having broken, because they were not outside, but inside the school where they were studying. Celestin asserts that the argument that the students were tearing people's clothes is untrue. [passage omitted]

The secretary general of the Lafontant Joseph Center said he is very pessimistic about the future of human rights under this provisional government. While

acknowledging that there were human rights violations under the Aristide government, Celestin said there is a climate of fear throughout the country, and wonders how long this situation will last.[passage omitted] [end recording]

Human Rights Group Criticizes Army, Diplomats

PA0512034691 Paris AFP in Spanish 0516 GMT 4 Dec 91

[Text] Port-au-Prince, 3 Dec (AFP)—The Haitian Center for Rights and Liberties (Chadel) reported in its monthly bulletin issued on 3 December that more than 200 persons have died as a result of bullet wounds and that, during the military coup that toppled President Jean-Bertrand Aristide on 30 September, the military tried to kill the wounded in one hospital.

Chadel, one of the most important human rights organizations in the country, was created by Jean-Jacques Honorat, the current prime minister of the provisional government. The human rights group, which is currently directed by Rene Dubois, also published a partial list of 110 people with bullet wounds. The list includes children between five and 12 years old.

The report also stated that on 1 October, "a group of soldiers entered the Hospital of the University of the State of Haiti in an attempt to murder the wounded who were being treated at that hospital."

According to Chadel: "The soldiers fired at the people who were carrying the wounded." The report added that this caused great panic, "because the soldiers even attacked the medical personnel."

The human rights organization indicated that also on 1 October, armed soldiers took over the Hospital of Carrefour (southeast of the capital) and forced all the staff to leave the hospital.

Chadel further said: "The victims of the coup, who were receiving the necessary medical attention from nurses and other staff personnel, were abandoned because of the pressure by the soldiers, who only seized the hospital ambulance."

The Chadel report denounced the "proconsular role played by nearly all the official representatives of the most important Western countries in Haiti," in a crisis "basically among Haitians, which never jeopardized the lives or property of any foreign citizen."

Meanwhile, state television announced on the evening of 3 December that the "temporary" Haitian Government strongly protested the Inter-American Human Rights Commission [CIDH] statement that there were 1,500 victims of the military coup.

The "temporary" government called the aforementioned statement a "fantasy," based on "unfounded" statements circulating abroad, that was made up one week before a CIDH delegation is schedule to arrive in Haiti.

Honorat Advocates Negotiated Solution to Crisis

FL0412154791 Port-au-Prince Radio Galaxie in French 1100 GMT 4 Dec 91

[Text] The head of the Haitian Provisional Government, lawyer Jean-Jacques Honorat, said yesterday morning that he is in favor of a negotiated solution to the Haitian crisis. Lawyer Honorat, who was speaking during an interview given to a private radio station [Radio Metropole] in the capital, advocated a compromise between the antagonist Haitian parties. He said there is no other solution to the crisis than a negotiated solution. For the time being, a solution through force is out of the question. He added that we cannot find a solution through force no matter what form of force. The process of negotiation must inevitably resume because there is no other solution to the crisis. That is what Honorat said. He also asserted that the Cartagena discussions were not a failure but rather a step that allowed us to see the dishonesty of one of the two Haitian parties.

Furthermore, lawyer Honorat severely criticized the embargo against Haiti, which he considers a solution of force, an unacceptable form of violation that brings no positive element to the solution to the crisis. Concerning the organization of elections in case of a breakdown in negotiations, Honorat only answered that he hopes the protagonists will be decent enough to find a solution in the next few days because, according to him, an institutional crisis cannot last longer than two months. A solution must be found because what is at stake is the prestige of the OAS, which inflamed the crisis with a resolution it took that went too far and too soon.

National Assembly President Examines Crisis

FL0512014591 Port-au-Prince Radio Metropole in French 1145 GMT 4 Dec 91

[Interview with National Assembly President Dejean Belizaire by correspondent Clarens, place and date not given—recorded; italicized passages in Creole]

[Text] Negotiations, negotiations, still more negotiations. Senator Dejean Belizaire, president of the National Assembly, one of the political figures at the center of the news nowadays, chooses his way in a search for the solution to the Haitian crisis.

[Words indistinct] are still to be surmounted, according to the president of the National Assembly. In a Radio Metropole interview, Dejean Belizaire, who led the Haitian delegation to Cartagena at the end of November, criticizes the opposition party for having voluntarily provoked a delay in the outcome of the negotiations which were aiming for a consensus, merging the needs of both parties, and reconciling their disagreement on whether to restore Father Jean-Bertrand Aristide to power or not.

While awaiting the next round of meetings, again under the auspices of the OAS, the Haitian parliamentarians are testing national opinion within various sectors. The

national opinion is rowing against the current, taking into account the variety of ideas and perceptions of the crisis and the solution to be adopted. Senator Belizaire intends to take whatever time is necessary to find the best formula for avoiding new catastrophes in the country. If Cartagena was a first step, other meetings are expected, although no date has yet been chosen.

[Begin recording] [Belizaire]*At the parliamentary level, we cannot take a radical stand in the sense that, according to rumor, the OAS wants us to become an opinionated party in the matter. Our duty is to facilitate proceedings and an acceptable solution for the sake of the country. We are not the executive power. We take note of the situation and, as parliamentarians, we [word indistinct] constitutional to what took place. As parliamentarians, we cannot fold our arms in a vacuum while we have a Constitution at our disposal which provides for these cases and the solutions to adopt. Many people analyze the issues with great passion. Others think that deputies and senators should have given up. This is childish talk. When democracy is being built; when there is already an established institution, such as our Parliament; and a coup de force takes place—fortunately the coup did not abolish Parliament—we think that such an institution must provide for its own survival while fulfilling the duty it was mandated by the people on 29 March 1987. The Parliament's responsibility is very clear and precisely defined in the Constitution.*

When I hear political leaders losing their serenity and objectivity, I always remember, as an example,—the case of the United States of America, which also experienced hardships in its democratic process. We recall the case of a President who favored human rights and was murdered. The American Congress did not disappear, however; the American institutions did not evaporate. The American Constitution provides for the absence of the President. The vice president must replace the President. No one, therefore, bothered about who murdered President Kennedy. The first thing to do is to fill up the presidential vacuum because a country cannot remain without leadership for very long.

[Clarens] Is your answer a way of responding to the American Government's proposals, which are opposed to the preferences of the Parliament?

[Belizaire] It goes without saying. It is because the American Government and the American states have a sense of identity that they consider themselves adults and can apply their constitution in their country. But we, as a nation in difficulty, people living in misery and poverty, and in addition to that, being black, makes the Americans think they must tell us what to do. Meanwhile, we have our Constitution which provides for the way we should do things. I also believe that the Haitian constitutionalists, without clearly explaining what took place, had a sense of the history of this country. That is why, in Article 149, it is a very clear matter. No one needs to look for complications. When we invited the prime minister to come to Parliament, he did not accept. The prime minister therefore removed all possibilities provided by Article 148, which would have allowed for the maintenance of the country's leadership, while providing for negotiations regarding the return or the nonreturn of Father Aristide. Since he did not show up, it was necessary to create a government. The Constitution provides, in Article 149, for choosing a president from the Court of Cassation, who in turn chooses a prime minister. It is clear. There is no doubt about it. We are here to help the country build democracy and find a solution to the national crisis. What is important to us is not one person. It is, most of all, the country and democracy.

[Clarens] In analyzing the seven-month administration of the Aristide-Preval government, and the coup that prematurely ended its mandate, Dejean Belizaire cites some serious mistakes. According to his reading of the causes that provoked the coup de force, he mentions Aristide's disturbing speech, a speech which seriously worried all sectors. Dejean Belizaire provides as proof speeches of the ousted president, which set classes of people against one another. Those are the mistakes, still in existence, that the Haitian parliamentarians are trying to correct through negotiations. It is necessary to take this opportunity to solve these problems which lead us increasingly away from the democracy that the entire nation aspires to.

[Belizaire]*What we are looking for in the negotiations is a way for the Haitian people to live in trust, in peace, in a real state of law. Someone may be guilty of an offense, but it is not up to someone else to decide that that person must die by necklacing. I think that is one of the causes of this coup. We also think that the president of a Republic is responsible for all citizens, no matter what someone's ideological and political position may be. I believe that what happened showed that no one should determine that a person should be persecuted because he is a Duvalierist, just as we do not persecute someone because he is a lavalas. We are against the persecution of someone because he was an SSP [Presidential Security Service], so long as the person does not act against the Constitution and against the law. I think that the country entered a period of focusing on macoutes, which was very harmful. There were macoutes under the Duvalier regime; there were macoutes under the Aristide government. Those macoutes were called SSP. Therefore, we are struggling for everyone to respect everyone ele. A president of a republic is the president to everyone. The state of mind which existed cannot continue. The nation cannot live in fear and anxiety. The economy of the country depends on the cooperation of all social forces. A part of the population should not, therefore, be set against the wealthy sector, for example. It is a very unfortunate practice, and we are struggling for those practices to subside in the country. The negotiations being held are an opportunity for all those problems to be solved.* [end recording]

[Clarens] Other problems that concern the Haitian parliamentarians are the serious consequences of the embargo. The embargo justifies, according to Dejean Belizaire, reasons for the Senate of the Republic to

against this measure. Belizaire reproaches the countries, members of the OAS, who have gone too far by adopting an unfair measure against a country already poor. Those who swear by the maintenance of this measure are only plunging the Haitian people into suffering, misery, and hardship. The most deprived will be those most severely effected. Why speak about elections while negotiations are more favored by the Haitian parliamentarians. We will examine the answer to this question in a different newscast. Dejean Belizaire learns lessons from this crisis. We are trying to break a myth. If he returns to power, Aristide will no longer be the same man.

Refugee Interviewed Upon Return From Venezuela

FL0412215091 Port-au-Prince Radio Galaxie in French 1230 GMT 4 Dec 91

[Italicized passages in Creole]

[Excerpts] A total of 73 Haitian refugees, who had voluntarily decided to return to their country after having been sent to Venezuela, arrived in Port-au-Prince from Caracas last evening. These refugees, sailing on rough-and-ready small boats, had been intercepted at sea by the U.S. Coast Guard and later received by Venezuela at the American Government's request.

A total of 6,400 Haitian refugees have been intercepted at sea by the U.S. Coast Guard since the military coup of 30 September. Miche Sully was on the spot last night and picked up the refugees' first impressions. Let us listen to the report by Miche Sully.

[Begin recording] [Unidentified refugee]*The only reason I left the country was to search for an improved standard of living. When an embargo was decided against my country, I went to look for a better standard of living. As I found Venezuela in a way worse than mine when I arrived, I requested to be sent back to my country.*

[Suily] What was your departure point?

[Refugee] The north, Cap-Haitien [about 300 km north Port-au-Prince].

[Sully] On what boat did you travel?

[Refugee] On a sailboat.

[Sully] How much money did you pay for that?

[Refugee] I did not pay because the boat belonged to a relative of mine.

[Sully] Are you ready to have a similar experience again, I mean to travel again by rough-and-ready small boat?

[Refugee] I do not think so. I see no reason for that. Obviously, if it were to go to Miami, I would find a way to go. But since it is not to go to Miami, I see no reason for it. I do not want to be in any other country except Haiti.

[Sully] How do you feel after returning to the country now?

[Refugee] Although I have not yet seen my parents, I have now begun to feel well here.

[Sully] How did they treat you when they took you at sea?

[Refugee] Not bad because the Americans sent me to Guantanamo. While in Guantanamo, I spent some days on the boat. That was not good. Later, they made me get off. It is was a bit better. [passage omitted]

[Sully] Did they promise to give you jobs?

[Refugee] Well, they said they would give us jobs, but they also said that there is a crisis in Venezuela similar to the situation in Haiti. That is to say, things are not easy and nothing can be done anyhow. We have consequently forgotten about jobs and have decided to return to our country.[passage omitted] [end recording]

Human Rights Commission Presents Report

PA0412204091 Mexico City NOTIMEX in Spanish 1922 GMT 4 Dec 91

[Text] Mexico City, 4 Dec (NOTIMEX)—Mexico's National Human Rights Commission (CNDH) settled 1,892 complaints from June to December 1991, 459 more than in the commission's first year, commission President Jorge Carpizo reported 4 December.

Carpizo presented to President Carlos Salinas the third biannual report of the CNDH's activities. The commission was created in June 1990 to protect human rights and combat impunity.

Carpizo said Mexican society trusts the CNDH more and more because 2,485 new complaints were filed during the period of time under consideration. This amount is equivalent to 76 percent of all complaints received during the commission's first year.

He said that until 27 November the CNDH had received 4,308 complaints, of which 1493 were in process as of 27 May and 330 were pending clearance for lack of information from the complainers. Another 2,485 complaints were received from 28 May to 27 November, he added.

Carpizo said that at present, of the 4,308 complaints, 892 have been settled, 2,275 are in process, and 141 remain to be cleared for lack of information on the part of the persons who filed them.

He added that of the 2,485 complaints received between June and December 1991, 1,646 are of an individual nature and 839 of a collective nature. This means that, in the latter, two or more persons are affected.

During the period analyzed, there was an average of 13.5 complaints per day, including Saturdays and Sundays, and holidays. An average of 10.2 records were resolved each day.

Carpizo noted that in the last period, torture occupied third place of the total of complaints filed of human rights violations. They comprised 156 cases, 6.2 percent of the total cases received.

He added that, during the first year of CNDH activities, torture had occupied first place, thus he felt there was a reduction in the number of these complaints.

He stressed that, according to the CNDH, this period has been "the richest in results, but we are still dissatisfied with the figures, we intend and vow to make the reporting period that is about to begin the best."

Carpizo commented that the group's efforts must be valued because, otherwise, "it would be absurd to continue with this mission."

He noted: "We are neither crazy nor martyrs. Consequently, we have decided to emphasize in this report, with all our strength and conviction, that important progress has been made."

Meanwhile, President Salinas de Gortari reaffirmed his government's commitment to protect the human rights of Mexicans and fight impunity with all his strength, within the law, and at all levels.

He said the bill he recently sent to the Mexican Congress to raise the CNDH to constitutional level is aimed at strengthening the CNDH's work and at making the protection of human rights an everyday matter.

He stressed that the law against torture sent to Congress for analysis and approval seeks to increase punishment of those who practice or permit it. It also seeks to repair the damage done to those affected.

The Mexican president said: "We maintain firm action against those who, tasked with fighting drug trafficking, forget their responsibility, and help promote that harmful activity."

Salinas warned: "We tell them we will continue to be firm, punishing them."

President Salinas Comments

PA0412224991 Hamburg DPA in Spanish 2035 GMT 4 Dec 91

[Text] Mexico City, 4 Dec (DPA)—Mexican President Carlos Salinas de Gortari today affirmed that his government will "seriously and thoroughly" fight against the impunity of public officials who violate human rights.

The president spoke at a ceremony, during which the National Commission for Human Rights [CNDH] presented its latest six-month report. He affirmed the government's commitment to "act strongly" against those who are supposed to fight drug trafficking, but end up involved in this illegal practice.

Observers see this warning as related to an incident that occurred one month ago in Veracruz State. Mexican Army troops killed seven narcotics policemen who were pursuing a Colombian airplane carrying a load of cocaine.

The Mexican Congress and the CNDH have begun an investigation into the killings, which at first were officially attributed to an accident. However, according to U.S. and Mexican media, the deaths could have been intentional; they may have been carried out by soldiers involved in fighting drug trafficking.

In the report, Jorge Carpizo, the president of the human rights commission, pointed out that 6.2 percent of all the complaints presented from June to December 1991, were torture cases. The total number of torture cases reported were 156. Torture was number three on the list, following arbitrary arrests and false accusations. A total of 2,485 reports of human rights violations have been filed at the CNDH in the last six months.

The CNDH report also states that 139 public officials have been sanctioned for human rights violations; 64 of

them have been tried. Since September, 40 cases of missing persons have been solved.

* Baranda Replaces Coello Trejo at Profeco

* Career Problems Noted

92CA0036A Mexico City LA JORNADA in Spanish 21 Oct 91 p 11

[Text] Javier Coello Trejo was removed yesterday from the post of the federal attorney for consumers, which he had held since October of last year. The president of the republic appointed economist Alfredo Baranda to replace him. Baranda, a former governor of the state of Mexico, was in charge of the finances of the Institutional Revolutionary Party (PRI) until yesterday.

Baranda, who worked out the terms for selling the Mexican Telephone Company, will be sworn in today at the offices of the Secretariat of Commerce and Industrial Development.

Coello Trejo, we will recall, was removed a year ago from the post of assistant attorney general of the republic in charge of combating drug trafficking, after numerous complaints were filed between January and October 1990 about the performance of the Judicial Police, of which he was in charge. In October of last year, in fact, there was a clash in Sinaloa between the Federal Judicial Police and the Sinaloa State Judicial Police in which a member of Governor Francisco Labastida Ochoa's team of bodyguards was killed.

In 1990 the Judicial Police in charge of pursuing drug trafficking was involved in the rape of at least 19 young women, in abusing the rights of citizens in Hidalgo, and in the Aguililla episode, when an attempt was made to implicate leaders of the Party of the Democratic Revolution (PRD) in drug trafficking.

In these and other cases Coello Trejo apparently protected his subordinates, so much so that the man now presumed responsible for the death of Norma Corona, Mario Alberto Gonzalez Trevino, was promoted to first commander and decorated by President Salinas specifically for having "resolved" the case of the murdered human rights defender.

Other abuses can be cited, such as when the Judicial Police under Coello Trejo's direction broke into the home of the governor of Nayarit, Celso Delgado; the deaths of the Quijano Santoyo brothers, and others that the National Human Rights Commission is investigating.

In the Office of the Federal Attorney for Consumers (Profeco) Coello Trejo resorted to an "iron hand" against the private schools that have raised tuition above the level set by the Stability and Economic Growth Pact Follow-up Commission.

Baranda graduated from the Law Department of the National Autonomous University of Mexico in 1968; got his master's degree in economics from the Colegio de Mexico; was the ambassador to Spain, and until yesterday was undersecretary of finances of the PRI National Executive Committee. He was the director of the Mexican Telephone Company during the period when preparations were under way to reprivatize the company and has held other jobs in government.

The change in Profeco was reported yesterday in a terse, 16-line news bulletin emphasizing Baranda's resume. It was learned that the change was reported officially at 1700 to the people in charge of the mass media at the Commerce Secretariat.

* Baranda Statement

92CA0036B Mexico City LA JORNADA in Spanish 22 Oct 91 p 12

[Report by Particia Munoz Rios]

[Text] In his first interview as head of Profeco [Office of the Federal Attorney for Consumers], Alfredo Baranda noted that he has taken the post "to bring about the unity that is so necessary at this time," adding that Javier Coello Trejo was fired because of the "wear and tear" on him as head of the institution.

Profeco is beginning a new stage in which consensus-building will prevail, as this is needed to finish consolidating the reform that President Carlos Salinas de Gortari is carrying out, Baranda said.

Meanwhile, when an attempt was made to interview the former "iron man" in Profeco, Javier Coello Trejo, he just smiled nervously.

When asked why he was dismissed, he indicated merely that "this is not the time to talk to the press; that will happen some other time."

Alfredo Baranda, the former interim governor of the state of Mexico, former director of the Mexican Telephone Company during its transition to privatization, and now the head of Profeco, commented that it is fundamental "for the days that are ahead" to adopt a consensus-building, not a repressive approach towards the country's production sectors.

He contended that unity, which must be achieved among all sectors, is fundamental to consolidating the economic program.

He then added that, nevertheless, firm action would be taken, with "the law in our hands," to defend consumers.

He also indicated that his efforts as head of Profeco would aim more at preventing abuses of consumers than taking action against accomplished facts.

"Consumers, businessmen, and merchants alike must understand that there must be a new ethics, a new culture of consumption in which each really does his part and does so as well as possible."

He also announced that there would be some changes in the Federal Consumer Protection Law, although he did not specify what they would be.

He said as well that he did not know why Coello Trejo submitted his resignation, although he acknowledged that it was a presidential decision because there have to be "replacements since there has been wear and tear" on officials.

The instructions that he received from the secretary of commerce and industrial development for his job were to "work like crazy in defense of consumers."

Merchants Happy

For its part, the Confederation of National Chambers of Commerce (Concanaco), yesterday expressed its approval that Javier Coello Trejo had been removed as head of Profeco.

The confederation said that Profeco's "indiscriminate" activities when Coello Trejo headed it "seriously impaired the efforts at a consensus that organized merchants have been making with the public sector to reconcile the disagreements that were arising between private citizens."

Ever since he was appointed there were doubts that he would respect the essential character of Profeco and observe the law in taking action, Concanaco asserted.

Regarding the appointment of Alfredo Baranda, it stated that this "is a change that is designed to eliminate differences and put an end to activities that are far from consistent with the law."

In light of Baranda's experience Concanaco predicted that his efforts would aim at dialogue and consensus-building, which are needed to modernize the public sector and its new relationship with society.

Caribbean Ambassador on Investment in Cuba

PA0412162891 Mexico City NOTIMEX in Spanish 0920 GMT 1 Dec 91

[Text] Merida, 1 Nov [as received] (NOTIMEX)—According to information from Hector Manuel Ezeta Gomez Portugal, Mexican ambassador for Caribbean Affairs, Mexican businessmen are developing two hotels and an agricultural irrigation project in Cuba as part of an opening to Latin American capital.

The Mexican ambassador said the Associated Civil Engineers (ICA) group has already started building a hotel in Havana and another group of Mexican businessmen is building a hotel at Varadero beach.

Participating in a workshop promoting cooperation among countries of the Mexican and Caribbean basin, Ambassador Ezeta Gomez Portugal said an irrigation project is also underway in Cuba. Its objective is to irrigate dry land to stimulate farming. He did not specify the amount invested in the project.

Representatives from 14 Caribbean basin countries have been meeting in this southern Mexican state since 28 November to discuss social development programs that may be applied in the region and to obtain information related to the Mexican Government's national solidarity program.

Mr. Ezeta Gomez Portugal commented that the influx of Mexican capital to Cuba will depend on how the Cuban Government implements changes to its foreign investment policy to encourage businessmen from other countries.

Pedro Morales, director of the International Economic Organizations Directorate of the State Committee for Economic Cooperation, said the opening to foreign investment undertaken by President Fidel Castro is "going well."

He added that currently there are several tourism projects to be developed in Havana with Mexican, Spanish, and other foreign capital. One of these is the program to develop tourism on the Isle of Youth.

El Salvador

Threats Against Foreign Media Condemned

PA0512134991 San Salvador Radio Cadena YSU in Spanish 1200 GMT 3 Dec 91

[Text] The Association of Foreign Press Correspondents in San Salvador will meet on 3 December to analyze the many threats some of its members have recently received. The newsmen will meet this morning and will later issue a communique.

Meanwhile, the Armed Forces Press Committee [Coprefa] on 2 December issued a communique on those threats. The Armed Forces strongly condemned the threats by clandestine groups against some correspondents of international news agencies and offices. These groups are trying to hinder freedom of the press in El Salvador.

In addition, other foreign officials, such as the members of the UN Observers for El Salvador [ONUSAL], a U.S. citizen who is a resident in El Salvador, and some Salvadoran politicians, have been the targets of similar threats by these antidemocratic groups.

The Armed Forces feel that these actions of psychological terror come from radical groups that do not like the progress of the peace process being promoted by the government with the Farabundo Marti National Liberation Front [FMLN]. In a certain way, these threats represent an obstacle to achieving agreements that will put an end to the conflict.

Likewise, we condemn the actions by leftist terrorist groups that are demanding so-called war taxes from coffee farmers in the eastern and central areas of the country. Commander Raul has cynically accepted this, and he said that blackmail in various social sectors is a strategy the FMLN has maintained during the 11 years of conflict as a means of financing their terrorist actions throughout the nation.

This is part of the Coprefa communique noting the threats against members of the international press, the members of the ONUSAL, and a U.S. citizen who resides here.

Honduras

'Declaration of Commitment' Signed With Nicaragua

PA0212215591 San Pedro Sula LA PRENSA in Spanish 30 Nov 91 p 4

["Declaration of Commitment" signed by representatives of the legislatures of Nicaragua and Honduras at the home of President Rafael Leonardo Callejas in Tegucigalpa on 29 November]

[Text] Tegucigalpa—Representatives of the Nicaraguan National Assembly and their Honduran counterparts unexpectedly reached an agreement on 29 November to omit the topic of the treaty on maritime borders between Honduras and Colombia from the negotiations on the Nicaraguan Government's withdrawing its suit against Honduras at the International Court of Justice in The Hague, in the Netherlands.

The agreement was signed at the home of President Callejas, who met with the two commissions, along with Armed Forces Chief General Luis Alonzo Discua Elvir.

As a result of this meeting, the Honduran and Nicaraguan legislators signed the following bilateral agreement:

The undersigned presidents of the Foreign Relations Commission of the Honduran National Congress and the Foreign Affairs Commission of the Nicaraguan National Assembly, meeting on 28 and 29 November 1991 to examine the status of international relations between legislative bodies, after a reflective analysis of the prevailing national and international situation hereby declare:

1. That for appropriate full harmony to exist between two fraternal peoples, it is necessary to seek solutions that are consonant with the Central American integrationist ideals that must be strengthened in today's new world order.

2. That within a clear spirit of Morazan [spirit of Central American Unity], there is full willingness on the part of the legislative representatives to resolve all the differences that exist between our nations.

In view of the foregoing, they express their desire to maintain peak relations of Central American fraternity, translated into legislative actions that are conducive to that goal, and to refrain from adopting measures that are in any way detrimental to the interests of their two peoples.

3. These representatives of the people urge the executive powers of the two countries to begin the work of the Mixed Commission on Maritime Affairs created by the two states so that it may analyze, study, and reach a satisfactory solution to the international maritime problem that exists between them.

Nicaragua To Withdraw Lawsuit at ICJ

PA0212225991 San Pedro Sula LA PRENSA in Spanish 30 Nov 91 p 4

[Text] Tegucigalpa—Nicaraguan President Violeta de Chamorro will announce to the Honduran Government the withdrawal of the lawsuit filed by that country at the International Court of Justice [ICJ] against Honduras. The president will make an official visit to the country for that purpose.

This information was revealed by Jorge Carranza, chairman of the Foreign Relations Committee of the National Congress, when referring to the agreement signed yesterday with the Foreign Relations Committee of the Nicaraguan National Assembly.

The document was signed at the residence of President Callejas.

Given the media's concern that the document does not include a specific statement that the Nicaraguans pledge to withdraw the aforementioned lawsuit, the Honduran deputy said that the document was not written that way "because it is not the government's obligation, and they must undoubtedly do this before the current sessions end in Nicaragua."

He said that the Honduran deputies firmly defended their position during the talks, meaning that "Nicaragua's withdrawal of the lawsuit has nothing to do with the border treaty between Honduras and Colombia."

Carranza said that the Nicaraguan Government's main function is to fulfill the pledge assumed by the Central American presidents at the summit in Tela, Atlantida.

Carranza stated that withdrawal of the controversial lawsuit involves two phases. A law that prevents the Nicaraguan executive branch from withdrawing the lawsuit must be abolished first. Once it is abolished, Nicaragua must follow the necessary procedures at the ICJ.

He said that this was the pledge, adding that Violeta de Chamorro must present the respective documents to President Callejas in the Honduran capital.

Carranza said that the controversy concerning the demand is far from settled, "and this is how it will be considered until the corresponding documents are in our hands."

Panama

U.S. Reportedly Removes Photos for Noriega Trial

PA0512042691 Panama City Telemetro Television Network in Spanish 2300 GMT 4 Dec 91

[Text] Photographs which were requested by ousted General Manuel Noriega were turned over by the U.S. Southern Command on 27 November without the authorization of the Panamanian Government. This station has learned that most of these photographs are of a compromising nature. It has also been learned that several embassies have asked for authorization to establish their missions in the canal areas that have reverted to Panama.

Gen. Noriega's request to the U.S. court was met when the photographs that he had sought to refresh his memory were taken from Panama to the United States. This was done even though the Panamanian Government had publicly stated that it would not send the photographs to Miami and that the U.S. officials were the ones who would have to travel to our country to see them. Telemetro interviewed Panamanian Foreign Minister Julio Linares, who neither denied nor confirmed this information.

[Begin recording] [Linares] Ambassador Hinton presented to the government and justice minister a request for those photographs. Approximately two weeks ago, at a meeting attended by members of the Catholic Church, we discussed this issue. I stated then that this request had to be made through the Foreign Ministry because it was being filed by the U.S. ambassador, as representative of his government, and the Government and Justice Ministry was not the proper institution to process such a request. Such a request must be filed through the Foreign Ministry. The Panamanian president accepted the view of the Foreign Ministry and of the government and justice minister that the request would be rejected and that Ambassador Hinton would be told to file the request through the Foreign Ministry. The Foreign Ministry has not received any request in this regard from Ambassador Hinton. That is what I can tell you about this issue.

[Reporter] But U.S. sources have said that the photographs are already there and that the Southern Command took them out of the country without even having the Panamanian Government's authorization.

[Linares] If the photographs are in the United States, the Panamanian Government could not have given its authorization because, I repeat, the Foreign Ministry has not received any request in this regard from the State Department through its embassy in Panama.

[Reporter] But you admit this has occurred?

[Linares] I could not say so. What I can tell you is what I know: I have not received any request and the Foreign Ministry has not issued any authorization.

[Reporter] What about reports indicating that several embassies, including those of the United States, Japan, and Great Britain, are interested in requesting land in the reverted areas to transfer their embassies to those locations?

[Linares] I can tell you that it has been considered advisable to earmark some lands in the reverted areas precisely so that foreign diplomatic missions can be installed there. This has occurred in other countries where this has been possible. For example, this occurred in Brasilia. Now then, this is something that is not handled by the Foreign Ministry but by the authorities who deal with the reverted areas.

[Reporter] But the requests have been made?

[Linares] The Foreign Ministry has not received formal requests. Some ambassadors, in informal meetings, have talked to me about this. However, we have not received formal requests. [end recording]

'Official' Describes Security Council Activities

PA0512021791 Panama City LA PRENSA in Spanish 2 Dec 91 p1a

[Article by Vilma E. Figueroa B.]

[Text] An official who works at the Council for Security and National Defense, headed by Menalco Solis, has told LA PRENSA that the council has an analysis office. According to this official, the analysis office does political espionage work and intercepts telephone calls, just as the former G-2 of the ex-Panama Defense Forces once did.

According to this official, the analysis office is in charge of following the movements of political figures, certain ministers, Vice Presidents Ricardo Arias Calderon and Guillermo Ford, various media journalists, labor leaders, and party presidents. In sum, he conceded, "we do espionage work."

He added that they also keep an eye on personnel who work at the Presidency, including his own comrades of the Council for Security and National Defense and the Institutional Protection System.

Furthermore, he said that just like the former G-2, there are personnel in charge of taking photographs, intercepting telephone calls, and recording them. All of this material remains filed in a computer system.

As an example, he stated, I can tell you that every time there is a march, "we" have to open a file on it and report everything that happens there. We have to include the names of the leaders and promoters of the activity, their slogans, and the participants. We also take pictures that are always kept in that file.

According to the source, the work performed by this office is similar to that of the G-2, the only difference being that it is now carried out within a democracy.

He disclosed that the files are kept in a secret place, where Solis is the only person who authorizes any move. But the disadvantage is that there are a large number of officials who work in various places in the country, he ironically added.

This official also disclosed that the training given at the Presidential Police Training Center is purely military. Personnel are trained in the use of war weapons instead of doing the vigilant work that is expected of a policeman.

The source indicated that espionage work goes on just as it did back in G-2 times, and that it is worrisome that members of the presidential security are being increasingly armed.

Court Dismisses Case in Killing of U.S. Lieutenant

PA0512175091 Panama City CRITICA LIBRE in Spanish 4 Dec 91 p 24

[By Florencio Galvez F.]

[Text] The Second Superior Court has definitely dismissed the case against three former members of the defunct Defense Force after explaining that their actions were not unwarranted during the violent incident of 16 December 1989 in which Lieutenant Robert Paz, a U.S. Army officer, died.

According to the ruling, Robert Paz, as well as U.S. soldiers Michael W. Wilson, Barry Lynn Rainwater, and Captain Richard Haddad, all of whom were traveling in a vehicle driven by Capt. Haddad, approached a Panamanian checkpoint on West 21st Street and A Avenue.

Panamanian soldiers Rigoberto Gutierrez Quezada, Ismael Abrego Farraguta, and 2d Lt. Maximo Tercero Rios Morales were the sentries at the checkpoint at the time. When the vehicle in which the Americans were traveling sped off, the lieutenant ordered to fire on the vehicle, which kept going and later in front of the Defense Force's Central Barracks, at a moment when Panamanian-U.S. relations were tense. [sentence as published]

The Second Superior Court reported that Robert Paz died of a bullet fired by an AK-47 rifle that entered through the trunk of the vehicle in which he was traveling. An autopsy has revealed that one bullet entered Paz' back and went through his upper abdominal region and his chest.

The U.S. military has declared that the sentries at the Defense Force Headquarters acted imprudently, a point of view that their Panamanian colleagues have rejected.

The court understands that the sentries had the obligation of impeding the transit of vehicles past the checkpoints that lead to the Central Barracks until they had identified the occupants of the vehicles and established whether or not they were in possession of arms or explosives.

The court decided that the decision of Capt. Haddad and his fellow soldiers to go past the checkpoint and to travel at full speed through a most dangerous area—the Central Headquarters of the defunct Defense Force—was imprudent. The court noted that the loss of a young life is regrettable.

The court decided that no other behavior could be expected from the sentries. The court noted that on past occasions it has found itself in the position of ruling the same way when there have been cases of Panamanians who imprudently approached checkpoints installed by U.S. soldiers in the days that followed the painful events of 20 December 1989.

Foreign Minister Affirms Integrationist Stance

PA0212172191 Panama City EL PANAMA AMERICA in Spanish 1 Dec 91 p 2-A

[Text] Foreign Minister Julio Linares on 30 November ratified the government's decision to join Central America with the signing of an educational and cultural agreement. This agreement was signed by the region's six countries.

Linares said Panama's signing of this educational agreement represents a firm step toward achieving deeper integration that will permit the countries of the region to form a bloc strong enough to face the great challenges of development.

The foreign minister explained that Central America's geographical location has been a decisive element in its security. The war that has plagued the region is directly related to foreign interests. He added that these foreign interests have tried to take advantage of this geography.

Linares stressed that Panama maintains its integrationist stance because it is the only way to find a common identity. He said signing this agreement lays the foundation to attain lasting peace in the region.

Linares reported that during the upcoming summit of Central American presidents in Tegucigalpa, Honduras, the presidents will review the progress made by each country in the integration process and other regional topics.

Nicaragua, Costa Rica Sign Railroad Accord

PA0512133891 Panama City LA PRENSA in Spanish 3 Dec 91 p 1

[Article by Manuel Alvarez Cedeno]

[Text] On 2 December, delegates from Panama, Nicaragua, and Costa Rica signed in the Panamanian capital the basic agreement to build a railroad network that will link the three Central American countries at an estimated cost of $200 million.

This railroad network for the southern part of the region represents the first step in the railroad master plan for Central America, which was signed last November in Nicaragua by the Central American Railroad Committee (Cocafer) and the Secretariat of Central American Economic Integration (SIECA).

The railroad in the southern part of Central America will be 1,154 km long, and it will connect the ports of Cristobal in Panama, Limon in Costa Rica, and Corinto in Nicaragua.

Guillermo Calzia, head of physical integration of SIECA, has said the project will promote foreign trade in the three countries.

The basic agreement was signed at Panama Railroad headquarters by Laurencio Guardia, deputy public works minister; Panama Railroad manager Jorge Morales; and his counterparts from Nicaragua and Costa Rica.

Attempt To Kidnap Police Major Prevented

PA0412195091 Panama City LA PRENSA in Spanish 2 Dec 91 p 1a

[Article by Vilma E. Figueroa B.]

[Text] Four armed and hooded men, dressed in black, attempted to kidnap Major Francisco Alvarez, third in command at the National Police, in the reverted area.

This information was supplied by an official source and subsequently confirmed by a member of the Public Force. A report on the incident appeared in the Balboa police record filed by the agents who prevented the kidnapping.

According to the information, the incident occurred at approximately 2300 on 30 November as policemen made their rounds in that sector. The agents saw the men and ordered them to halt and prevented them from kidnapping Alvarez, the current general director of the Police Zones.

The source disclosed that the Balboa Station policemen making their rounds fired at the hooded individuals who, in turn, fired back. The men fled and, later on, bursts of machine-gun fire were heard near an area known as Cerro Tigre, a police arms and ammunition depot located past Gamboa.

Correction to Raid at Presidency Denied

PA0512030091

The following correction pertains to the item headlined "Presidency Raid Denied," published in the 2 December Latin America DAILY REPORT, page 30: Column one, make sourceline read: Panama City CRITICA LIBRE in Spanish 1 Dec 91 pp 1,43 (deleting extraneous words EL DOMINGUERO and (Tentative) notation)

Argentina

Menem Returns From Cartagena; Meets Press

PY0512105091 Buenos Aires TELAM in Spanish 0206 GMT 4 Dec 91

[Excerpt] Buenos Aires, 3 Dec (TELAM)—President Carlos Menem stated today that the provinces "must make adjustments similar to those made at the national level," and that "the provincial governments cannot avoid this. They have to assume their responsibilities in keeping with the nation in this successful process of changes we are conducting," he said.

Menem said that the balance after four rounds of elections throughout the country is "highly favorable" for the government. "It is sufficient to see the Chamber of Deputies, where the Justicialist Party had 104 seats and now it has 122 seats, without mentioning the so-called group of eight [not further identified], which has been reduced to five, and in 1993 will be reduced to zero, because they are obviously doing just the opposite of what the Argentine people really want," he said.

President Menem tonight granted a news conference at Ezeiza International Airport shortly after his return to the country from a tour of Venezuela and Colombia, countries where he participated in summits of the "Group of 15" and of the "Group of Rio" together with other Latin American presidents.

The Argentine president at all times stressed the role played by Argentina in the recent summit although he had to refer more to the national situation due to the reporters' continuous questions.

Menem also stressed Arnoldo Castillo's victory in last Sunday's elections in Catamarca, adding that former governor Ramon Saadi had worked "very hard, but he is a young man and will continue working. We must never remain idle, and we shall see what will happen from now on. I think it was a good electoral result and I hope the democratic process will also be consolidated in Catamarca," he said. [passage omitted]

Cavallo Predicts 'Economically Boring' 1992

PY0412224291 Buenos Aires BUENOS AIRES HERALD in English 4 Dec 91 p 3

[From the "Business World" column]

[Text] (NA)—Economy Minister Domingo Cavallo predicted yesterday that 1992 will be an "economically boring," year. "We don't believe we'll be able to come up with anything like a new package of reforms," he said at a meeting in Punta Carrasco, adding that government policy will be confined to perfecting current economic strategies. The Economy Ministry will publish detailed monthly accounts of the fiscal situation as from January 10, Cavallo said. He predicted a primary budget surplus totalling 3 billion dollars next year, and capital inflows of 1.5 billion dollars from abroad. The budget surplus for the last quarter of 1991 will be 900 million dollars, Cavallo said. The current check tax rate of 1.2 per thousand will be reduced to 0.3 per thousand as from March 1, he said.

Deputy Police Commissioner Indicted

PY0412223691 Buenos Aires BUENOS AIRES HERALD in English 4 Dec 91 p 11

[Excerpt] (DYN-NA)—Suspicions over links between a police kidnapping "supergang" and the abduction of business tycoon Ralph Clutterbuck mounted yesterday with the indictment of Federal Police Deputy Commissioner Carlos Alberto Benito for his alleged participation in that crime.

Meanwhile, excavations carried out yesterday in a house where kidnap victims Mauricio Macri and Sergio Meller were imprisoned uncovered 110,000 dollars hidden in a wall of the building. On the other hand, no human remains were found contrary to the expectations of investigators.

Benito, whose passion for imported cars, sporting boats and a ritzy lifestyle surpassed the means of a policeman's salary, was recognized through photos published in newspapers as the person who demanded two million dollars from the Clutterbuck family in exchange for the return of the body of the disappeared businessman.

On hearing about Judge Juan Carlos Cardinali's orders for Benito's arrest, Alan Clutterbuck, son of the kidnapped businessman, confirmed that "that possibility exists" that his father had been kidnapped by the same police "supergang" that abducted Macri and Meller, and stated that "at no time" did he pay money in exchange for related information.

The discovery of the large sum of money in the house located at 2880 Garay prompted Judge Nerio Bonifatti to continue the search, and suggested the possibility of further excavations in the coming days.

Digging lasted for four hours but police sources in the end rejected the possibility of uncovering the remains of further excavations in the coming days.

Digging lasted for four hours but police sources in the end rejected the possibility of uncovering the remains of businessmen Julio Ducoc and Rodolfo Clutterbuck.

Dudoc was abducted in 1980 and Clutterbuck in 1988, and in spite of the fact that ransoms were paid in both cases, the two men have not been seen since. [passage omitted]

Secretary of State Denies Charges of Violations

PY0412224091 Buenos Aires BUENOS AIRES HERALD in English 4 Dec 91 p 11

[Text] (NA-DYN)—Secretary of State [title as published] Miguel Angel Vicco yesterday denied being one of the

owners of Sastre, a company accused of selling contaminated powdered milk to the government.

"Now that I have been accused of being the owner of that company, I'm waiting for them to send me my stocks, and if the company has any dividends, they should let me know," Vicco said ironically from Cartagena, Colombia.

Socialist Deputy Simon Lazara took the matter to the criminal court, charging Vicco with violating contract laws since he allegedly bid to sell powdered milk and worked for the government at the same time.

The milk was distributed by a company called Summon, which is owned by Carlos Spadone, a close friend of the president. The case, which could be the next scandal linking people close to President Carlos Menem, was made public last Sunday after the Buenos Aires daily PAGINA 12 broke the story. Lazara, then, took the matter to the criminal courts.

"Secretary Vicco was listed as head of that company (Sastre) and at the same time was prohibited from obtaining a government bid since he has the rank of state secretary," Lazara said after reading the PAGINA 12 article and comparing it to his own notes on the investigation.

Lazara asked Vicco to distance himself from Menem "because it isn't nice to see someone charged with corruption standing next to the President." [passage omitted]

Menem Congratulates UN Secretary General-Elect

PY0512123891 Buenos Aires TELAM in Spanish 1139 GMT 5 Dec 91

[Text] Buenos Aires, 5 Dec (TELAM) — President Carlos Menem has sent a note in which he congratulates Boutros Ghali, new secretary general-elect of the United Nations, for his recent appointment. In the note Menem offers to "fully cooperate with you and to provide all the necessary synergy that will help to promote even more the principles and objectives of the Charter."

After congratulating him in the name of the Argentine people and government, Menem stresses that "the international community is experiencing a time of changes that will need the experience and the cooperation of the organization that your excellency will head to strengthen the process of peace and understanding that has begun between nations."

Menem stresses; "Your vast political experience will help you to wisely play your role." Thus, Menem concluded his message of greetings to Ghali, the text of which was released last night by the Foreign Ministry.

Bolivia

Rumors of Armed Forces Dismantling Denied

PY0412194491 La Paz Radio Fides Network in Spanish 1100 GMT 4 Dec 91

[Text] Denying U.S. reports, Senate Chairman [title as heard] Guillermo Fortun Suarez said the Bolivian Government will not allow the dismantling of the Bolivian Armed Forces.

[Begin recording] [Word indistinct] no possibility of eliminating the Armed Forces of the Bolivian Republic. The Armed Forces [words indistinct] defense to make Bolivia increasingly (?new), but more strictly to defend our border. I, therefore, believe the Armed Forces have a place in the national territory and in the (?citizen conflict) in our country. [end recording]

Commenting on the issue, Revolutionary Left Movement President Oscar Eid Franco said the government is not planning to dismantle the Armed Forces.

[Begin recording] [Word indistinct] the declaration of the Republic. Bolivia was born through the Armed Forces. As long as Bolivia exists, the Bolivian Armed Forces will continue to exist. [end recording]

Netherlands Agrees to $21 Million Assistance

PY2811121891 La Paz La Red Panamericana in Spanish 0000 GMT 28 Nov 91

[Text] The Netherlands Government has approved a new financial assistance program for Bolivia in 1992. It includes a donation of $21 million that will be used for the implementation of projects, in particular in the fields of health, agriculture and livestock, irrigation, education, the environment, water resources, assistance to the social investment fund, and a program for women.

The agreement was signed on 27 November by Foreign Minister Carlos Iturralde and Netherlands Ambassador to Bolivia Hendricus Princen. Before the signing of the agreement, the delegations from Bolivia and the Netherlands held a meeting to study the current economic situation in the country, and the programs implemented by the government to promote social development.

The current state of development of projects that are being carried out with the cooperation of the Netherlands was discussed at the meeting. This cooperation amounts to $62.3 million, which is being used to implement several other programs such as aid to the balance of payments, the Andean Program, a bilateral program [not further specified], and nongovernmental programs.

Foreign Minister Carlos Iturralde has expressed the government's appreciation for the decisive Netherlands cooperation in the economic and social development of the country.

[Begin recording] The constitutional government of Bolivia is engaged in promoting social and economic

development, which at this period of substantial change depends to a great extent on the development of technology and research, which are the quickest and most effective ways to improve production, and consequently, to improve the people's well-being. [end recording]

Ambassador Princen later talked to the press about the current Bolivian economic situation, and the goals achieved regarding the stabilization program:

[Begin recording] The Bolivian economic policy is working similar to the policies implemented in other countries, and now the World Bank and the IMF are implementing a very successful policy. A tremendous success has been verified over the past few months in the country. There are very few countries in the world where a policy is as successful. [end recording]

Brazil

President Collor Returns From Cartagena

PY0412010491 Brasilia Voz do Brasil Network in Portuguese 2100 GMT 3 Dec 91

[Excerpt] President Fernando Collor de Mello arrived at the Brasilia airport this evening shortly after 1900. He had been in Cartagena, where he and more than 10 presidents attended the Rio Group summit. From the airport President Collor went to the Alvorada Palace. [passage omitted]

Highlights of Letter of Intent Disclosed

PY0512132691 Brasilia Radio Nacional da Amazonia Network in Portuguese 0900 GMT 5 Dec 91

[Text] In the letter of intent presented to the IMF, the Brazilian Government estimates that the economy will grow 5 percent as of 1994. It states that the economy will only recover as of 1993 when it is estimated that the GDP [Gross Domestic Product] will grow by 3 percent.

The Brazilian Government letter of intent was presented by President Fernando Collor to IMF Managing Director Michel Camdessus in Cartagena, Colombia. It was simultaneously issued on 4 December in Brasilia and Washington.

In it 13-page letter of intent, the Brazilian Government reasserts the austerity of the fiscal and monetary policies. It also foresees a reduction in public expenses and an increase in revenues through the sale of state companies within the framework of the privatization program.

The Brazilian Government also informs the IMF that in 1991 public expenses must be cut by 10 percent and that public companies must balance their budgets.

In the monetary sector, the Brazilian Government reasserts the implementation of a high-interest rates policy until inflation is curbed. It is estimated that the yearly inflation rate in 1993 will total 20 percent.

If the IMF approves this proposal, Brazil will receive financial aid totalling $2 billion over a 20-month period. During this time, the Brazilian Government must fulfill the commitments detailed in the letter of intent.

State Auctions Yield 1.7 Billion Cruzeiros

PY2711153891 Brasilia Radio Nacional da Amazonia Network in Portuguese 0900 GMT 27 Nov 91

[Report by Beto Almeyda]

[Text] Eduardo Modiano, the president of the National Economic and Social Development Bank, BNDES, has reported that so far the government has obtained 1.7 billion cruzeiros from the auctions of four state-owned companies.

Modiano believes that by the end of next year the government will have privatized 26 state-owned companies, including the Brazilian Aeronautics Company, Embraer, and the Brazilian Airport Support Enterprise, Infraer.

Angra-3 Nuclear Project Cost at $1.1 Billion

PY0412010091 Sao Paulo FOLHA DE SAO PAULO in Portuguese 2 Dec 91 Section 1 p 5

[Report by Sylvio Costa and Sonia Mossri from FOLHA's Brasilia bureau]

[Excerpts] The government wants to sell equipment for the Angra-3 nuclear project, which has already used up $1.1 billion but whose construction has not yet started. Only excavation work has been carried out thus far.

All there is at the Angra-3 construction site in Angra dos Reis (154 km from Rio de Janeiro) is a giant hole, which is proof of the mishaps stemming from the Brazilian-German nuclear cooperation agreement signed in 1975.

Sixteen years after the signing of the agreement, the government has already spent $5 billion for the Angra-2 and Angra-3 nuclear projects, both of which still are not generating a single kilowatt of electricity. With $5 billion it would be possible to build 5,000 CIAC's (Integrated Support Centers for Children).

In Angra-3 alone Brazil has already spent $600 million just to pay the interest and principal to German banks which have agreed to finance the project.

According to Sergio Guimaraes, general coordinator of Furnas Electric Power Plants, Inc. (the state-owned company that administers Brazilian nuclear plants), $150 million were invested in the equipment that Iran wants to buy. The remaining $350 million were used in designing the project, in foundation work, and maintenance services on equipment. [passage omitted]

Brazil and Argentina are currently negotiating their admission into the International Atomic Energy Agency (IAEA), which Collor would like to formally complete on

13 December during his visit to Vienna (Austria). Recent remarks by Infrastructure Minister Joao Santana has unearthed old fears about Brazil.

These fears are mounting in light of widespread rumors that Brigadier Hugo de Oliveira Piva is carrying out activities in Iran. Piva had been an adviser to the Iraqi Armed Forces until the outbreak of the Persian Gulf war. Needless to say, another factor has been the close trade ties, which included arms sales, existing between Brazil and Iraq until January 1991.

Chile

Aylwin Returns From Cartagena With Lacalle

PY0412012091 Santiago Television Nacional de Chile Network in Spanish 2330 GMT 3 Dec 91

[Relay by Ramon Ulloa from Santiago International Airport—live]

[Excerpt] Good evening. The Chilean Air Force plane that brought President Patricio Aylwin and his entourage back from the 3-day-long fifth summit of Rio Group presidents in Colombia, landed at the Arturo Merino International Airport at 2030 on the dot. You will now see President Aylwin's activities upon arrival.

A welcoming committee headed by Vice President Enrique Krauss [title as heard] met President Aylwin on the airport apron. President Aylwin arrived with Uruguayan President Luis Alberto Lacalle, whom Aylwin had invited to share the plane. Lacalle will return to Uruguay tomorrow. President Aylwin then signed a protocol taking over the reins of the country. [passage omitted]

Pinochet Comments on Armed Forces Politicization

PY0412193691 Santiago EL MERCURIO in Spanish 29 Nov 91 p C2

[Report by special correspondent Gabriel Gonzalez S.]

[Text] Pampa del Tamarugal—General Augusto Pinochet Ugarte said yesterday that he fully agrees with the statements made by the Navy and Air Force commanders, Admiral Jorge Martinez Busch and Air Force General Ramon Vega Hidalgo, respectively, that the Armed Forces may be politicized if the executive branch is empowered to retire Armed Forces personnel.

The Army commander was commenting on recent reactions to President Patricio Aylwin's announcement that he will soon submit to Congress a constitutional amendment to empower [the executive branch] to retire Armed Forces personnel.

Before this presidential announcement and despite the defense minister's statement that the Defense Ministry would support General Manuel Contrera's retirement if the Armed Forces so decided, the Army declined to adopt any measures against Brigadier Pedro Espinoza, who also is being prosecuted in the Letelier case.

Opposition leaders have stated that by submitting this amendment proposal to Congress, the president will politicize the Armed Forces.

Gen. Pinochet said yesterday that the media probably "misinterpreted" President Aylwin.

Pinochet reasserted the Army communique issued a few days ago that states that Brigadier Pedro Espinoza Bravo will not be retired because this is not part of the Army's plans. Espinoza has been indicted and is being prosecuted for the assassination of the late Foreign Minister Orlando Letelier and the falsification of passports.

Pinochet said no court ruling has yet been passed against Brigadier Espinoza. Therefore, the Army cannot adopt any decision against him, that is, it cannot retire him. Espinoza has been reinstated and is serving in the 2d Army Division.

It was reported that Gen. Pinochet will return to Santiago during the weekend after heading the closure of the 1st Army Corps' military maneuvers.

President Postpones Speech to Nation

PY0512014291 Santiago Television Nacional de Chile Network in Spanish 2330 GMT 4 Dec 91

[Text] President Patricio Aylwin will address the nation over the radio and television network at 2000 local time on 9 December to announce the measures that will be implemented to deal with crime. It has been reported that the president decided to postpone his speech originally scheduled for 5 December because he decided to first talk it over with the commanders of the Armed Forces branches and the director general of the Carabineros.

[Begin recording] [Unidentified reporter] This morning President Aylwin met with Carabineros Director General Rodolfo Stange, who refused to discuss the upcoming security measures with the press. In the afternoon, the president met with Air Force Commander General Ramon Vega, who also refused to provide details about the measures that will be announced on 9 December.

[Vega] We discussed the Carabineros organizational law. That is what we did. I have read this law and I have no serious objections to it. It is a matter between the Carabineros and the government and that is all I have to say about it.

[Reporter] He confirmed, however, that the Carabineros will be placed under the Interior Ministry's jurisdiction for operational matters while the Defense Ministry will continue handling the organization's administrative affairs. He also said that crime is a problem and that all the available means should be used to deal with it. [end recording]

The measures that the nation's president probably will announce on 9 December include the partial transfer of the Carabineros to the Interior Ministry, the establishment of a public security under secretariat, the licensing of private security guards by the Carabineros instead of the Santiago military garrison, and an increase in penalties for certain crimes.

* Aylwin's Decision To Overrule Ministers Viewed

92SM0113B Santiago QUE PASA in Spanish
21 Oct 91 pp 18-19

[Report by Grace Gibson: "An Invincible Lobby"]

[Text] Not even President Patricio Aylwin's closest collaborators could have imagined that the destiny of Codelco [Copper Corporation] Chile's Executive President Alejandro Noemi would change so rapidly thanks to a simple family meeting at the president's house. Nor could they have guessed that that informal lunch, which took place Saturday the 12th, and included the two men closest to Noemi, Executive Vice President Maximo Pacheco Matte and Marketing Vice President Gonzalo Trivelli, was in reality a powerful lobby constructed to convince Aylwin to change his decision to throw out the Codelco man.

Trivelli and Pacheco had a very powerful weapon: the solid ties between their families and the president. Trivelli is Aylwin's nephew: Trivelli's father is married to one of Mrs. Leonor Oyarzun's sisters. Pacheco has known Aylwin since he was born because he is the son of Senator Maximo Pacheco, lifelong friend of the president, with whom he also is a comrade. But at the same time, the success of the lobby left a wound in the breast of La Moneda. With his change of mind, the president has olympically overruled three of his closest ministers: Finance Minister Alejandro Foxley; Secretary General of the Presidency Edgardo Boeninger; and Mining Minister Juan Hamilton, who 15 days ago had succeeded in convincing Aylwin himself to authorize the change at the highest executive authority of Codelco.

In reality, the harmony between Noemi and Minister Juan Hamilton, president of the Codelco board of directors, was broken a short time ago when the new government was initiated. Political differences, which were aggravated over time, eliminated the warm atmosphere that should have prevailed at the Codelco board of directors' meetings that took place every Tuesday in the organization's central headquarters. To such an extent that Noemi had already submitted his resignation in January of this year, which was postponed because the difficult collective bargaining process had begun. The miners strike at Chuquicamata and El Teniente, afterwards, did not help much to rebuild the tense relationship with the Mining Ministry. In addition, Hamilton suffered pressures from his own party, which demanded from him the resignation of another Codelco strong man, Maximo Pacheco Matte (PPD [Party for Democracy]), son of Senator Maximo Pacheco (PDC [Christian Democratic Party]), Aylwin's friend.

But it was only 15 days ago that Minister Hamilton decided to resolve all the problems he had with Codelco, and the solution, in his view, was to remove Noemi. With the argument that the enterprise was initiating a new phase of modernization, Foxley, Hamilton, and Boeninger met days before the former began his trip to Thailand. The three were in agreement that the Codelco man should be replaced. It was not merely because he did not get along with Hamilton, but rather that, in addition, the latter argued that Noemi had gone over the heads of the Codelco board of directors, composed of six people, including Hamilton and Foxley themselves.

The three ministers requested a hearing with Aylwin to present the issue to him. He agreed, requesting, of course, that it be Boeninger who communicated the resolution to Noemi, which he effectively did on Thursday the 10th in the minister's office. Meanwhile, Hamilton carried out another task: search for a new executive president. There were three names shuffled around, but finally he inclined toward Eduardo Aninat, the former Chilean foreign debt negotiator, who at that moment was in Europe. But that was no impediment to Hamilton communicating with him, and since he had heard the approval for Noemi's removal from Aylwin's own lips, he directly proposed that he join the major copper company. Aninat accepted.

The rumor had already reached the ears of reporters, and despite the fact that Hamilton refused to provide an official version, excusing himself with evasive answers, he knew that things were working perfectly: Noemi had requested a hearing with Aylwin for Tuesday the 15th, but nothing could change things. That same day, at 0930, Noemi himself had to officially hand over his resignation at the board of directors' meeting.

What the trusted minister did not know at that time was that the family meeting at Aylwin's house would change the plans abruptly. Maximo Pacheco Matte and Gonzalo Trivelli knew perfectly well the importance of arriving on Saturday the 12th at the President's house, surrounded by their children. In that informal atmosphere, they showed him the disadvantages of removing Noemi, just when Codelco's modernization phase was about to begin. The argument was not insignificant: it would cost a great deal to find a man with sufficient experience to successfully manage the policies of Chile's most important state enterprise. Noemi, however, a successful businessman in the mining sector, knew how to do it well.

Aylwin was persuaded that another formula might exist that would not necessarily involve the resignation. His reply, although evasive, was a success for Trivelli and Pacheco: he said he would consider it.

At that time, however, his only assumption being that his exit had been approved by Aylwin, as Boeninger had expressed it, Noemi was ready to re-initiate his career in the private sector. So much so, that on Monday the 14th

he was only at his Codelco office for a minute. Most of the time he spent at his Refimet company, located in Providencia, of which he is a partner with his brother Paulino.

In Noemi's view, the meeting he had requested with Aylwin for Tuesday the 15th was no more than a chance to explain to him his work at Codelco since he had been appointed. That is why his face changed so much at 0915 that Monday. Punctually at Amapolas, the president needed little time to approve him.

Another face that changed was that of Hamilton himself, when contrary to his expectations, half an hour after talking with the president Noemi radiantly entered Codelco, informing the board of directors that he would remain. A question passed across the minister's stricken face, which disconcerted him: Why had Aylwin changed his mind, overruling three of his most important collaborators and friends?

Hamilton's anger was fed even more when LA SEGUNDA came into his hands that same Tuesday. His eyes went directly to the contents of an interview with Noemi, in which the latter explained that the president had approved his position. It was precisely that point that most bothered Hamilton: his arguments against the Codelco president were that he tended to go around the board of directors, as if his only superior were the president, and the statements in the newspaper only confirmed that. For that reason, when the minister went to La Moneda to speak with Aylwin that Tuesday at 1800, he was even prepared to resign if his differences with Noemi were not definitively resolved. Only at 1945 was he seen emerging from La Moneda, but in reality the conversation he had held was much calmer that what he himself had expected. Despite the fact that he told him outright that he had lost confidence in Noemi, Aylwin assured him that from that time on the Codelco president would submit to the decisions of the board of directors. As proof, he said, he would inform Noemi of that in a new meeting, which took place on Wednesday the 16th at 0900, and which Hamilton also attended.

In reality, and despite Aylwin's succeeding in reestablishing the icy relations between Noemi and Hamilton, the feeling remained at La Moneda that in some way, the president had let himself be led by emotional considerations. Particularly because a simple family meeting had triggered a change that implied, in addition to going back on a decision that had already been taken, the overruling of three of his ministers.

* PS Membership Supports 'New Majority' Faction

92SM0112B Santiago HOY in Spanish 28 Oct 91 p 11

[Text] It is unclear to which of the movements evolving within the PS [Socialist Party] Jorge Arrate will subscribe. Whether to the so-called "New Left," which groups together Camilo Escalona's supporters, former IC [Christian Left] members, former ARCO [Communist Renewal Assembly] members, regional leaders and a portion of the youth constituency, or rather the so-called "New Majority," which brings together the Nunez sector, the terceristas [thirdists], the cascos azules [blue helmets], and PPD [Party for Democracy] supporters.

At the end of last week Arrate's supporters (among the most well-known are Gonzalo Martner, Marcelo Contreras, and Lincoyan Zepeda) met and demonstrated that opinions are divided. In any case, the majority decided to support Ricardo Nunez, leaving Arrate in an uncomfortable position. He had expressed—in a personal letter—to Deputy Camilo Escalona that he did not want to formally align himself with the Nunez group so long as he remained at the head of the PS, because he preferred to position himself above the internal movements, which is what he has been most harshly criticized for, especially from the most pro-PPD sector.

* PS Sector Criticizes 'Supra-Party' Government

92SM0112A Santiago ERCILLA in Spanish 30 Oct 91 pp 6-7

[Report by German Gamonal]

[Excerpt] Certain Socialist leaders from the sector aligned with Deputy Camilo Escalona—the PS [Socialist Party] "colorines" [reds]—delivered a document also signed by Vice President Luis Maira, in which they pointed to the presence of a "supra-party" that directs government actions.

The signers of the document are exactly right.

For some time it has been observed that there is a group of ministers and officials in the government—particularly in two areas—that administers the entire political-party-legislative apparatus, under President Patricio Aylwin's absolute authority.

That is an irrefutable reality.

The declaration's signers complain about the lack of participation of the political parties to the Agreement in major decisions taken at La Moneda. In turn, the governing assemblymembers, the deputies in particular, also complain they are rarely considered.

That was the tenor of the meeting someone referred to as "the crying session" which took place at the La Moneda "bunker" last Monday. The document that had already been analyzed by ministers, subsecretaries, and administrators in a previous meeting was read in detail: "Administration of our Government, Finances, Tasks and Directions."

The question that arises when one hears the complaints of Deputy Camilo Escalona's supporters is this: Is the presence of the so-called "supra-party" positive for the country, or would it be better to return to the co-governing system with the parties? [passage omitted]

Monday morning, after the political leaders' usual meeting with members of the government at La Moneda,

Christian Democratic President Senator Andres Zaldivar spoke, showing himself to be fully in agreement with backing the "supra-party's" policies, even though he recognized the role of the political collectives. [passage omitted]

The party leaders declared publicly and solemnly, weeks before the election of the current leadership, that they would fully respect its nominations for ministers, ambassadors, and high administrative positions; that "approval" of the leaders would not be necessary, and that there would be no political quotas in the sharing of responsibilities.

Aylwin made into a reality what had been approved and signed by the leaders of all the groups supporting him. And in fact he has governed with a style absolutely different from most recent democratic presidents. Aylwin has been a president above the parties; his ministers do not respond to political leaders, but rather to him, and that is what has been characterized as a "supra-party" government, corresponding precisely to that reality.

To be more clear, the president does not consult the leaders before taking a given measure: he informs them.

The main implementers of the projects are the public sector ministers, and the one who is essentially the captain of the ship—that is, the one who provides the "navigating charts"—is named Edgardo Boeninger. A document developed by precisely this minister served as a "working paper" for the meetings, both at the first one, held with the high officials, and the famous one on Monday afternoon.

In any case, the objective of the little series of meetings was not to introduce changes in the governing team. Perhaps the essential thing has been to provide the opportunity, especially to the assemblymembers, to formulate their complaints and criticisms, and to definitively permit the collective "crying session," now that Luis Maira and Camilo Escalona's supporters have said that a government has been introduced that plays politics Mexican-style.

* Rojas, Frei Present Documents at DC Congress

92SM0113A Santiago EL MERCURIO in Spanish 31 Oct 91 p C4

[Text] Defence Minister Patricio Rojas, and Christian Democratic [DC] Party Senator and Presidential Candidate Eduardo Frei Ruiz-Tagle, carried two documents to the collective's Ideological Congress that was inaugurated today.

The one Minister Rojas carried to the DC event is entitled, "Toward a New Vision of DC Political Culture in the New Century," while the senator's is called, "Thinking About Chile: A Community in Solidarity for Liberty."

Patricio Rojas Saavedra's 16-page document establishes from the beginning that the State of Law is the only response to the violence of democracy, and in that respect it holds that "we will never waver in defending the right to life."

It maintains that another scourge afflicting Chilean society is drugs and the illicit trafficking of them. It states that even if Chile is not considered among the large producers or large consumers, it is not immune from this social evil.

It establishes that the dangers of production and manufacturing are too close to our borders, and their costs have declined to such an extent that "we must classify ourselves as a 'country in risk,' and consequently act to warn our youth of this evil."

In the area of doctrine, Minister Rojas asserts that "we are not forced to an exercise in re-establishing or inventing new formulas or political, economic or social doctrines."

He adds that to confront the 21st century, efforts must be made to create a new DC political culture, reaffirming the validity of the party's values and doctrines for concrete political action. He calls attention to the doctrinal roots, and to not comprising ideals for the sake of attractive fashions or deceptive movements.

He maintains that the Chilean DC should at this time ratify its commitment to the symbol by which it was born, has lived and is known by Chileans, that is, to be a party of ideals and service to the Chilean people, especially the poorest.

In the economic sphere, he calls the party's attention to the profound differences that an economic model supported by the DC must have with an authoritarian market economy model. "To those who say that today we are continuing the same economic scheme as before, we must give clear examples of our differences," he said.

With respect to the DC political model for the domestic sphere, it establishes that "the participation of the domestic militant base of youth, women, and professionals must be broadened in the political-planning tasks, and in fulfilling and supporting government actions when these compromise our support."

In his final thoughts, Patricio Rojas states that "in politics, as in social and economic life, not everything is macro. Micro exists, and is a valuable tool for the future." To the youth, he points out that "there is a great deal to do, and that is the eternal responsibility and challenge for each new generation."

Eduardo Frei Ruiz-Tagle

In Eduardo Frei Ruiz-Tagle's 29-page document he analyzes the identity of the DC, lays out pending tasks, discusses strengthening the state and society, and finally refers to the party as a commitment and an instrument of service.

Regarding pending tasks, Eduardo Frei mentions sustained and stable development, together with political participation, social integration, and efficient and equitable economic progress. He also emphasizes that "only participation, integration, efficiency, and equity, linked closely to each other and carried out simultaneously, will bring us successively closer to the unified country for which we strive."

He adds that for that reason, the entrepreneurial initiative of people must be encouraged, by providing access to opportunities facilitating development, because this is the best and most secure path to build a unified society in Chile.

As urgent tasks that the DC must carry out, he includes strengthening civil society through the participation and democratization of political institutions; preferential attention to education and the family as privileged agents to social integration; and the consolidation of development that efficiently reduces poverty, generates worthwhile work, rewards creativity and innovation, and guarantees environmental protection.

In describing the struggle against poverty, Frei maintains that it is indispensable to focus social expenditures on policies favoring vulnerable groups and human settlements stricken by poverty.

In the aforementioned section involving strengthening the State, he indicates that it is necessary to provide the country with clear rules for the private and public spheres, preventing undue advantage and parasitism from occurring on either side. Public goods and interests belong to everyone, and they cannot be wasted on large or small private interests, he states. He adds that the DC, in the perspective of the democratic consolidation, should be an active participant in reorganizing the state.

With respect to modernizing the public administration, he calls for assuming and leading innovative methods to facilitate intermediation between the public and the private sectors.

For the DC's domestic plan, he calls for deepening pluralism and participation; for developing communication between people; for making an effort at organization and governability of the complex reality existing within the DC and within society; and for bringing the party up to a level sufficient to face its current challenges. He notes in that regard that this does not mean reducing all party life to a stultifying collectivism.

He adds that the fact that all are in agreement on everything is not a good sign, as he believes that following this path will only constrain people's creativity, dynamism and initiative. He concludes that debates, differences and alternative options are signs of good political health.

Hungarian President Arrives for 3-Day Visit

PY0512113891 Santiago Radio Cooperativa Network in Spanish 2200 GMT 4 Dec 91

[Report by Carmen Castro]

[Text] Hungarian President Arpad Goncz arrived in Chile today as part of a tour through four Latin American countries. Chilean Foreign Minister Enrique Silva Cimma welcomed the official guest who later met with President Patricio Aylwin.

Upon his arrival, the Hungarian president said that the political transitions in Chile and Hungary have significant similarities. Goncz emphasized that his government is very interested in expanding commercial and cultural ties with Chile.

[Begin Goncz in Hungarian fading into Spanish translation] I have come here on the wings of friendship because the two countries harbor no misunderstandings or conflicts.

We have the same interests within the framework of international politics. We have supported each other and we can continue doing this in the future.

We also have common concerns. We must deal with privatization and rebuild our countries. [end recording]

The Hungarian president said that he was confident that commercial relations with Chile could become steady. He also stressed that Hungarians are greatly interested in Chilean culture, adding that cultural relations between the two countries are as important as political and economic relations. President Goncz advocated strengthening the links between Hungarian and Chilean universities. He concluded by saying that it is very important for the new democratic Hungary to strengthen its ties with Latin American countries. President Goncz will visit other Latin American countries, namely Ecuador, Colombia and Venezuela.

Diplomatic relations between Chile and Hungary were fully reestablished in January 1990, after the latter country, then socialist, severed relations on 25 September 1973.

In 1990 Chilean exports to Hungary amounted to $4 million while imports from that country totalled $4.6 million.

Colombia

Government Statement on Rebel Actions Issued

PA0412172991 Santa Fe de Bogota EL NUEVO SIGLO in Spanish 29 Nov 91 p 8

[Statement issued by Government Minister Humberto de la Calle in Santa Fe de Bogota on 28 November]

[Text] 1. After examining reports by police authorities, the national government has concluded that there is strong evidence that a Revolutionary Armed Forces of Colombia group is responsible for the criminal ambush of 26 November in Usme Municipality, Cundinamarca Department, in which seven persons were murdered and three others were injured.

2. This grave event contradicts the Simon Bolivar National Guerrilla Coordinating Board's [CNGSB] promise not to attack the civilian population. Therefore, it creates doubts about the guerrilla's sincerity and will for peace. The government acknowledges the statement made by Mr. Alfonso Cano, CNGSB leader, that "this grave event is not related to the peace process, or to the dialogue, or to the war itself, and that there is no reason for the conflict to harm civilians." The government demands that this statement be supported by facts.

3. This event makes a dialogue between the government and the guerrillas impossible. The killing of civilians, young people, and distinguished judicial branch officials deserves the strongest rejection by the government and all the Colombian people. Once again the guerrillas have responded with violence, death, and destruction to the government's generous and serious peace offers. There is no coherence in the rebels' position. Their disposition for peace is not clear.

[Signed] Humberto de la Calle Lombana, minister of government

Self-Defense Groups Accept Government Decrees

PA0212182391 Santa Fe de Bogota Inravision Television Cadena 1 in Spanish 0100 GMT 1 Dec 91

[Report by Jose Luis Ramirez in Puerto Boyaca]

[Text] Following several weeks of talks and meetings with the national government, the Magdalena Medio self-defense groups have accepted Decree 22-65, which allows sentences to be reduced for the confession of one or more crimes. Therefore, Ariel Otero and 35 of his trusted men will no longer be members of a paramilitary organization. They have also admitted to illegally possessing weapons. According to Colombian law, this crime does not warrant the arrest of any members of the self-defense groups.

[Begin Criminal Investigation Director Carlos Mejia recording] Decrees 30-30 and 20-47 establish that type of policy to settle this issue of conspiracy to commit a crime and illegal possession of weapons. [end recording]

Self-defense groups leader Luis Meneses, also known as Commander Ariel Otero, now defends the existence of the armed organization and its 11-year struggle against guerrilla groups in the Magdalena Medio region. Ariel Otero added that differences with the Medellin Cartel ended on the day that Pablo Escobar Gaviria turned himself in to Colombian justice.

Referring to the controversial and confusing issue of a video recording—which was never publicized—showing members of the National Constituent Assembly accepting bribes, Otero revealed that he had destroyed the evidence.

[Begin recording] [Otero] The issue of the cassette no longer concerns the media, me, or anyone else; it is a thing of the past. Let bygones be bygones.

[Unidentified reporter] Do you have that cassette in your possession?

[Otero] No, it does not exist.

[Reporter] Was it erased?

[Otero] I destroyed it because I have a responsibility to the country, to the Colombian nation.

[Reporter] But the country still needs to know what happened.

[Otero] That is now history; let bygones be bygones. [end recording]

The Magdalena Medio people living in Puerto Boyaca hope that the promises made by the self-defense groups will become a reality so that peace will be achieved in this area of the country.

Self-Defense Groups Demobilize

PA0212162691 Santa Fe de Bogota Inravision Television Cadena 1 in Spanish 1800 GMT 1 Dec 91

[Report by Oscar Galvis from Middle Magdalena]

[Text] Members of self-defense groups continued on 1 December to turn themselves in. Authorized sources said from 500 to 3,000 men will turn themselves in to Colombian authorities. These people have modern weapons worth over 6 billion pesos.

Of the 170 who demobilized 30 November in Puerto Boyaca, 25 said they were turning themselves in because they had judicial cases pending. They turned in weapons worth approximately 2.3 billion pesos. On 1 December, 1,700 men are demobilizing in Puerto Berrio and Caucasia, Antioquia Department, and in Llanos del Yariel, Caqueta Department. Of these 1,700 individuals, 180 are turning themselves in and the weapons they are turning in are worth approximately 6 billion pesos.

In Puerto Boyaca two of the demobilized men spoke with us.

[Begin recording] [First unidentified man] For me, this means progress, peace for all Colombians, and a rest for all peasants after so many years of struggle.

[Second unidentified man] With this act we are showing the country and the government that we too want peace in Boyaca and the rest of the country. [end recording]

Ecuador

Congress President on Borja-Fujimori Meeting

PA0512025091 Quito Voz de los Andes in Spanish 2300 GMT 4 Dec 91

[Text] The meeting between Ecuadoran President Rodrigo Borja Ceballos and Peruvian President Alberto Fujimori in Cartagena, Colombia has not been very encouraging for the country, inasmuch as there are no specific results, particularly for the border dispute between the two countries.

Manuel Salgado, acting president of the National Congress, has said however that there is a slight hope. We hope, he said, that the National Congress will be informed of all the details of the meeting between the two presidents. Salgado added that Ecuadoran Foreign Minister Diego Cordovez will have to present that report to Congress.

[Begin recording] [Salgado] Nonetheless, I believe it is important that the two presidents met and reached the conclusion that it is necessary to find a peaceful and legal solution, and that they have decided that the foreign ministers as well as the armed forces chiefs of the two countries will meet again before 15 January. Above all, I think it is important that the presidents understand the need to reduce the expenses in the arms race and to invest in the priority projects of national development in the two countries.

[Reporter] Were you expecting more from this meeting?

[Salgado] Personally speaking, I had not clearly established that we could have greater expectations. The border dispute with Peru is very old, complicated, and delicate. Therefore, I think that the important thing is that we begin the dialogue, that we strengthen our national unity.

I would say the Ecuadoreans must now seek and find a new stand, because Peru and Peruvian President Fujimori have definitely not accepted the idea of papal arbitration.

[Reporter] [Words indistinct]

[Salgado] I think so. The president had pointed out before his trip that he would consult with the Ecuadoreans. I also think it is evident that we will have to have a National Congress session so he will report in greater detail. It would have to be a three-hour session.

[Reporter] Do you think the government is about to yield and reach an agreement with Peru, without considering our sovereign rights over the territories that were taken away in 1931?

[Salgado] I think that there is no basis for this opinion. I do not think any president could act so irresponsibly, or could disregard the sacred interests of the country.

[Reporter] Do you think that Ecuador should change the [words indistinct]?

[Salgado] We should be searching for several alternatives. One cannot go to negotiations with just one stand. One must be flexible, and search for various alternatives that will lead to the same goal: peaceful coexistence between Ecuador and Peru. [end recording]

Acting Foreign Minister Views Border Dispute

PA0512023491 Quito Voz de los Andes in Spanish 2300 GMT 4 Dec 91

[Excerpt] Ecuador said on 4 December that as a result of the negotiations being conducted on the border dispute with Peru, Ecuador hopes to reach a just solution that will include respect for Ecuadoran rights to sail on the Amazon River.

Acting Foreign Minister Mario Aleman told the private television network Telecentro that Ecuador's rights over the Amazon River should be considered so there will be a just solution to the problem. The expedition that discovered the Amazon River some 500 years ago sailed from the area that later became Ecuador; therefore, access to the river should not be denied to a country that helped to make this discovery possible, the official added.

This announcement was made one day after Ecuadoran President Rodrigo Borja and Peruvian President Alberto Fujimori met in Cartagena, Colombia to seek a solution to the problem. Acting Foreign Minister Aleman feels the Quito and Lima governments are striving for a peaceful, just, and definite solution to the problem. He added the conflict goes back to the founding of the two nations over 150 years ago. [passage omitted]

Peru

'Controversial' Legislative Decrees Summarized

PY0412103091 Lima LA REPUBLICA in Spanish 25 Nov 91 Supplement pp 1-8

["The Controversial Decrees" by Angel Paez and Francisco Mattos]

[Text] By virtue of the legislative rights granted by Congress, the executive branch has promulgated more than 100 decrees in an effort to reform the state. Objections have been raised, however, by various sectors including Congress.

LA REPUBLICA, realizing the importance of these measures for the nation, publishes here not an interpretation of the laws but an index and a summary of their content with the date of publication in the official gazette to serve as a guide and for consultation.

Agriculture

Decree No. 653 includes regulations on the right of ownership and their restrictions; on unoccupied land, jungle areas, jungle border areas, waterways, and farming activities. Summarizing, through this law, the state will grant legal guarantees to the possession and ownership of rural land, will enforce the Civil Code in cases involving possession or ownership of rural land, will facilitate possession of land by any individual or corporation, and will give the same advantages to foreign and local investment. The law will also promote investment in rural land where areas for agriculture, livestock, forestry, or industrial activities are to be opened. The law will help to promote the use of underground water and the improvement of irrigation systems. It will also promote the transfer of technology at the initiative of the private sector.

Among the most outstanding points, one can mention that if a local or foreign individual or corporation legally makes use of rural land, the state will guarantee such use. The direct use of land can even be made through land management or administration. Peasant and indigenous communities may rent land that they own for forestry development purposes, provided such land is in fact used for forestry projects. Agrarian corporations may freely choose the type of exploitation. They may also subdivide land and chose their agricultural activities without previous authorization. Landholdings that surpass 5 hectares—except for land owned by peasant and indigenous communities—may be mortgaged.

Decree No. 667, the Rural Lot Registry, will be part of the Land Registry. This includes the Shantytown, Popular Urban Area, and Rural Lot Registries. The law sets forth that rural lots are areas within rural areas, or in urban expansion areas which were declared land that may not be confiscated [zona intangible], and which is used for farming, livestock, or forestry development. This decree has chapters on general dispositions, ownership certificates that may be registered, the registration of ownership of rural lots, registering the possession of rural lots, the plans needed for registration, and temporary and final dispositions.

Decree No. 682 sets forth that Decrees No. 653 and 668 do not overrule regulations on the preservation of wildlife or with plant and animal health measures.

Defense

Decree No. 733 sets forth that national mobilization is a permanent, comprehensive process consisting of adjusting national power and potential to national defense requirements, which will allow the availability and timely assignment of the resources that are necessary to cope with any emergencies that jeopardize national security. National demobilization, on the other hand, is a comprehensive, gradual process of returning to normalcy following an emergency. Individuals and corporations without exception, as well as the goods that may be required for national defense purposes, are subject to the regulations of this decree. In cases of expropriation, intervention, requisition, or rendering of services of any type for national mobilization, they will be paid for and/or compensated for under the law. The law includes regulations on organizations and responsibilities; the process of and the resources for social mobilization; expropriations, interventions, requisitions, payments, or compensations; and infractions and sanctions.

Decree No. 738 states that the Armed Forces will intervene in zones that have not been declared in a state of emergency only in cases of serious disruption of internal order or imminent danger of disruption of order that cannot be controlled by the National Police. The Armed Forces Command must be informed of the intervention through the most expeditious channels. The command of the corresponding military unit will coordinate the implementation of the plan with the local National Police authorities. Once order is restored, the Armed Forces will continue with their activities in keeping with the state of law.

Decree No. 743 sets forth that National Defense is the adoption of permanent and comprehensive provisions and actions to guarantee the independence, sovereignty, and integrity of the country. Consequently, it is mandatory for all Peruvians to participate in national defense efforts. It will thus be mandatory for all individuals and corporations, without exception, to cooperate with the appropriate authorities, supplying the information required for national defense purposes. This information may not be used for any other purpose. Also, whoever—because of his post or duties—becomes aware of information related to national defense will keep it secret. Anyone aware of a fact that jeopardizes national security must report it to the closest appropriate authority. The National Defense System is presided over by the president and comprises the following organs: the Single Pacification Command, the National Defense Council, the National Intelligence System, the Ministry of Defense, the National System of Civil Defense, the Secretariat of National Defense, the National Defense ministries, and the public organizations and offices.

Decree No. 746 states that the objective of the National Intelligence System, Sina, including the National Defense System, is to develop intelligence activities to contribute to the security of the country. Intelligence reports must be provided to the president of the Republic, and the public and private sectors must provide the necessary information and/or documents required by Sina for national security and defense. If they fail to comply, they will be criminally charged. The Sina includes the National Intelligence Service; the intelligence departments of the Ministries of Interior, Foreign Relations, Economy and Finance, and Education; the intelligence organizations of the defense sector; and the intelligence organizations of ministries, public organizations, and regional and local governments.

Decree No. 749 states that the Political-Military Command of the emergency zones will take the initiative in

guaranteeing the participation of the public and private sectors in the implementation of plans and guidelines approved by the executive branch in favor of national pacification and the eradication of terrorism and drug trafficking.

Decree No. 751 states that the approved decree is Directive No. 00391-MD/SDN of the National Defense Planning for Pacification, an instrument that guarantees consistency of actions of the public and private organizations for the fulfillment of that directive, which is of a priority nature, and its actions will be carried out in the short and medium term. The directive is restricted and the ministries, public organizations, and regional governments must comply with it.

Decree No. 752 establishes that because of the particular nature of violence and the need to pacify the country, the law establishes regulations regarding the position of Army, Navy, and Air Force officers. It defines and guarantees the essential rights and obligations according to the classification, category, rank, and employment. The decree, which contains 72 articles, six transitory clauses, and two final clauses, contemplates the classification of Armed Forces officers by military category, rank, and situation, and various dispositions such as the system of promotions.

Decree No. 759 establishes that military service is compulsory for a minimum of one year and establishes reasons for exoneration. It also establishes punishments for those who evade military service and includes amnesty for those who have been in that situation prior to 1990, following the payment of 50 percent of a current minimum remuneration.

Decree No. 762 states that whoever reveals, reproduces, exhibits, publishes, or makes accessible through any means, the full or partial content of information and/or secret activities of the national defense system, will serve a prison term of no less than five and no more than 10 years, in addition to being disqualified. Anyone who, without authorization, provides and makes accessible to third parties the same information will serve a prison term of no less than six and no more than 12 years.

Economy

Decree No. 639 seeks to provide the National Superintendency of Tax Administration, Sunat, with a new structure. The administration is therefore being reorganized. Its personnel must be evaluated, classified, and assigned to the different Sunat divisions based on their merits. Anyone disobeying this regulation will be dismissed. The superintendent must investigate any immoral acts by his workers. Sunat is also authorized to purchase, with its own resources, the building of the former Mining Bank and its price must be fixed by the National Assessment Council.

Decree No. 641 establishes the new duties and rights of taxpayers and sanctions those who violate the Tax Code. Violators are those who do not give sale slips, who do not register sales or income for services, who do not register at the Sunat, who do not keep accounts, and who do not include in their earning statement some kind of income or asset. The sanctions include the closure of business from 10 to 60 days without affecting the rights of workers of the business.

Decree No. 643 provides a single payment equivalent to 1.5 percent of property of individuals, community property, and inheritors. The resources obtained from this regulation will be used to finance various government social emergency programs.

Decree No. 646 authorizes the payment of a single special tax on shares and on capital of companies established in the country. This income will be used to finance social emergency programs.

Decree No. 656 contains a chapter on a general sales tax under the following titles: Tax Application and Obligation, Tax Exemptions, Tax Subjects, Tax Calculations, Gross Tax, Fiscal Credit Tax, Adjustment on Gross Tax and on Fiscal Credit Tax, Tax Declaration and Payment, Export Tax, Tax Registration and Payment, Tax on Decentralized Industrial Companies, Tax on Companies Established in Jungle Areas, Tax Exemption on Industrial Companies, and Simplified Tax. The chapter Selective Tax on Consumption includes the following titles: Tax Application and Obligation, Tax Subjects, Basic Tax Rates, and Tax Payments. It also includes lists of operations and services exempted from the general sales tax; goods affected by the Selective Tax on Consumption at a rate of 134 percent; and goods and services affected by the Selective Tax Consumption.

Decree No. 657 declares the public need to develop employment. The National Fund of Compensation and Social Development, Foncodes, has been created to finance social projects for employment, health, food, and especially basic education. The Foncodes will comprise representatives from the presidency of the Republic, the Council of Ministers, the Ministries of Health, Labor, Economy, Education, and Agriculture, the National Planning Institute, local governments, and a representative of the community. The appropriations of the Public Treasury included in the budget of the Republic, the appropriations of the Treasury resulting from agreements to pardon the debt through donation, other donations, transfers and legacies, profits on the administration of its resources, and nonreimbursable contributions from foreign governments, foundations, and international and other organizations all belong to Foncodes.

Decree No. 659 seeks to promote international trade and private investment through the rational use of the imported goods of national interest. Therefore, a new procedure for imports and the storage of merchandise has been approved. The National Customs House Superintendency, Sunad, will be responsible for their control.

Decree No. 661 explains the scope of Decree No. 646, which taxes jointly owned and workers shares, and the participation and rights of capital shares of companies.

State companies are basically excluded from this tax. Taxes can be paid in installments.

Decree No. 662 provides the necessary guarantees for foreign investments in the country by giving them the same rights and obligations as national investors, as established through constitutional regulations. Foreign investors are also guaranteed the right to transfer abroad freely converted foreign currency without previous authorization from the central government or public organization, after paying the taxes established by law.

Decree No. 663 was issued with the purpose of helping foreigners who are willing to bring capital and invest in the country. The state will consider qualified immigrant status for foreigners of good moral and economic standing whose entry was previously evaluated by a diplomatic mission or consular office. The decree establishes objectives, definitions, and eligibility; the ad hoc commission; requirements and procedures; passports for qualified immigrants; treatment regarding investment funds and projects; and complementary and final regulations.

Decree No. 664 states that customs offices will be empowered to decide on applications to import items exhibited at fairs and international exhibitions, based on existing laws, without requiring presentation of the authorization indicated in Article 23, Decree 094-79-EF.

Decree No. 666 is explained in Legislative Decree No. 657.

Decree No. 668 states that the state will guarantee the freedom of domestic and international trade, as well as the free access of economic agents, for the purchase, transformation, or trading of goods—manufactured or raw materials—and for the supply of services. Exclusive rights, limitations, or other restrictions or monopolistic practices affecting production, or the trading of goods and services of all kinds, including those carried out by the central government, public companies, or any state organization or agency, are hereby annuled. The state also guarantees the free possession, and the internal and external use and disposition of foreign currency by people and organizations established in the country, as well as the convertibility of the national currency to a single exchange rate. Among other benefits, the law also provides for support to the international trade negotiations promoted by the private sector, and a ban to impose surcharges, aliquots, or any other tax, except for the taxes that correspond to the real value of the imported goods.

Decree No. 672 encourages several industries to hold shares as a way to promote private investment. It is established that a society with a large number of shareholders is one in which no less than 1,000 shareholders are the owners of at least 25 percent of the social capital. The society can issue shares with special rights and can exercise the preferential right of the shareholders to authorize increases in capital. It establishes the election of representatives before the special general boards, on the basis that each share represents a vote. Presentation of the number, value, percentage of the shares and rights of the partners is mandatory 30 days before the regular session is held.

Decree No. 673 establishes that Sunat personnel will be submitted to the labor regime provided for in Law No. 4916, including the extension and modification of measures, as well as the related measures. It regulates the justified reasons for the dismissal of an employee. It establishes a three-month trial period for each new employee and creates an employees fund.

Decree No. 674 states that the promotion of private investment in the state-owned enterprises is declared in the national interest, for which the regulation specifies four sections designed to promote the growth of investments: the transfer to the private sector of part or all shares or assets of state-owned enterprises; the increase of capital in these enterprises through contributions made by people or private organizations living in the country or abroad; the signing of contracts on partnership, services, leasing, management, consession, and similar areas; and the sales of assets belonging to state-owned enterprises if it is carried out through dissolution or liquidation. The Privatization Committee, Copri, and the special committees will be in charge of promoting private investment in state-owned enterprises.

Decree No. 677 regulates the participation of workers in the profit, management, and ownership of companies with third-category incomes. The percentages to be distributed annually will be as follows: 8 percent to mining enterprises, 10 percent to fishing, industrial, and telecommunications enterprises, and 5 percent to enterprises engaged in other activities.

It is herewith established that payments will be made 30 days after the set deadline, when 50 percent will be proportionately divided among all workers and the remaining 50 percent will be distributed as part of basic salaries.

Decree No. 680 establishes that the reorganization of the Customs and Sunad services will be postponed until December 1991, thus allowing for the evaluation of all workers, their assignment to areas for which they are more qualified, and the investigation of corruption charges against them.

Decree No. 701 forbids and punishes acts or behavior connected to economic activities that abuse their power over the market, and hinder or distort free competition. The Free Competition Commission will control compliance with this decree. The commission will be comprised of representatives of the Ministry of Industry, Commerce, Tourism, and Integration, the Ministry of Economy and Finance, and the Confiep [Private Businesses Confederation]. The latter will be in charge of conducting the appropriate investigation to punish those who violate the terms of this decree.

Decree No. 717 states that individuals or corporations that sell or supply goods or services to public enterprises or organizations included in the Yearly Public Sector Budget Law will not have to register with the organizations; however, they will have to organize a registry and send a copy of it to the National Institute of Public Administration, which will prepare a single suppliers' registry.

Decree No. 719 regulates the international technical cooperation provided by private or public foreign organizations. This matter is presently being studied by government agencies. The decree acknowledges that through this international technical cooperation Peru receives, transfers, and/or exchanges human resources, goods, services, capital, and technology from foreign cooperation sources to complement and contribute to the national development. The Foreign Ministry, the Economy and Finance Ministry, the National Planning Institute, other ministries, and centrally administered autonomous public companies that are developing programs with international technical cooperation, and the local and regional governments that carry out such programs within their jurisdictions will be responsible for administering such operations.

Decree No. 720 states that from now on municipalities will only require individuals or companies to obtain municipal authorization to carry out their economic activities. They must fulfill health and sanitation regulations, and municipal authorities will directly and continuously supervise their activities.

Decree No. 721 creates the Special Project of Unified Registration [Proyecto Especial de Registro Unificado] within the budget of the Industry, Commerce, Tourism, and Integration Ministry. Regional governments that adopt the Unified Registration system within their jurisdictions will be ruled by this disposition.

Decree No. 722 is divided under the following titles: General Regulations, Customs Tax Administration, Entry and Exit of Goods, Customs Office Procedures, Definitive Administration, Customs Guarantees, Auctions and Other Means to Dispose of Goods, Customs Rules Violations and Penalties, Claims and Customs Resources, Customs Officers, Customs Terminology Glossary, and Transitory, Complementary, and Final Measures.

Decree No. 723 states that the Corpac [Peruvian Corporation of Commercial Airports] will assume the control, supervision, and inspection of passengers and their baggage coming from abroad, as well as all functions of the airport customs office in accordance with the Regulations on Equipment and Household Appliances [Reglamento de Equipaje y Menaje de Casa]. Private companies chosen after public biddings organized by a special commission made up of one Sunad representative, one Economy and Finance Ministry representative, and the Corpac board of directors' president will be authorized to import the aforementioned equipment.

Decree No. 725 states that the Financial Development Corporation, Cofide, will promote and implement medium- and long-term financing for public infrastructure projects throughout the country, particularly those that are unlikely to be totally financed by the private sector. Confide, through trusteeships, will also seek, distribute, and recover resources obtained abroad for the medium- and long-term financing of such projects.

Decree No. 728 promotes a system of equal job opportunities, guarantees access to useful jobs, and protects Peruvian workers from unemployment and underemployment. In sum, it improves the levels of adequate employment, encourages the full use of existing opportunities in companies, promotes productive investments in the private sector, and guarantees job stability and workers' salaries. The disposition also helps to adequately and efficiently coordinate job supply and demand, and it promotes the education and training of workers, helps people working in low-productivity and income jobs in urban and rural areas to obtain higher-paying productive activities. It also unifies norms on labor contracts and consolidates existing social benefits.

Decree No. 754 states that banks mergers will be carried out by absorption and that the Agriculture Bank will act as an incorporation entity. This means that the Agriculture Bank will automatically assume the administration of these entities as soon as the respective board of directors submit the documents formalizing the merge of their companies. From now on the Agriculture Bank will be called "National Development Bank." It will operate as a state enterprise but under the Private Code. It will not operate with the deposits of private investors and it will give loans only to small farmers or shop owners in depressed areas or areas under state of emergency and where commercial banks do not operate. During the merger process, the Agriculture Bank will assume the ownership of the shares that represent the capital of the Industrial, Mining, and Housing Banks. The National Housing Fund, Fonavi, will be taken over by the Housing and Construction Ministry.

Decree No. 755 extends the scope of the National Supervisory Commission for Companies and Values, Conasev, [Comision Nacional Supervisora de Empresas u Valores] and approves norms regulating the purchase of shares, the operation of stock exchanges, the work of brokers, supply instruments, and secondary markets.

Decree No. 757 protects free initiative and private investments in all areas of the Peruvian economy, stressing that the only prices that can be administratively set are utility rates. The decree also annuls all state market reserves for any economic activity or exploitation of natural resources, except in specific cases of national security. The decree regulates all taxation and legal matters affecting foreign investments.

Decree No. 758 authorizes the granting of concessions to the private sector to undertake constructions, repairs,

and exploitation of public services. This includes transportation, environmental sanitation, energy, health, education, fishing, telecommunications, tourism, recreation, and urban infrastructure. The works and services provided in accordance with this decree will be supervised by the respective ministries.

Education

Decree No. 686 abolishes the taxes on the products made by Siderperu [Peruvian Iron and Steel Enterprise] for the National University del Santa, Chimbote. The Special Fund for University Development has been created to finance the National University del Santa.

Decree No. 695 states that the National Sports Institute proposes a National Sports Emergency Plan to support the pacification, development, and employment program. The National Sports System is declared in a state of emergency and consequently a new general sports law will be promulgated.

Decree No. 699 declares that the participation of the organized community—cooperatives, parents associations, religious organizations, professional schools, the Armed Forces, autarkic companies and mixed economy enterprises, decentralized public organizations, regional and local governments, and public and private corporations—in all levels of education are considered of national interest and a public need. The state will, however, handle the administration and control of the educational centers and programs considered necessary in the country. The state also believes that free education must be respected. As of 1992, the educational directorates and the Educational Service Units are authorized to pass to the educational promoting organizations the administration of the educational centers under their jurisdictions.

Decree No. 700 orders the evaluation of the educational programs at all levels to guide them toward pacification and recovery of values. The Defense Ministry and the production organizations will coordinate with the Education Ministry on the measures necessary to promote development projects and establish settlements in border areas and to provide incentives to create employment. The Armed Forces and the parent associations will assume direct responsibility in the actions prepared by the Education Ministry in the zones declared in a state of emergency.

Decree No. 726 changes Article 8 of University Law No. 23733 by which the security forces can enter the university facilities when they are informed that subversives are obstructing internal order. This action requires previous authorization by the Ministries of Defense and Interior, and by the Military or Police Commands as the situation demands.

Decree No. 739 states that high school graduation will be obtained automatically after all studies have been completed but the professional title will be obtained only after a thesis is approved, or after graduating and having served professionally for three consecutive years in that profession, and after submitting a project or other documents required by the university. The university, however, can stipulate other requirements.

Decree No. 756 approves the use of private capital to support the Huampani Vacation Center and to improve its hotel services for recreation, for conventions and cultural events, and to attract domestic and foreign tourism. It is made clear that although the center belongs to the Education Ministry it will be self-financed and its expenses will not be paid from the Public Treasury.

Energy and Mines

Decree No. 647 allows Mineroperu [Peruvian State Mining Enterprise], Centrominperu [Central Peru Mining Enterprise], and Hierroperu [Peruvian Iron Mines Enterprise] to obtain private investments of not less than 51 percent for the expansion, repair, and modernization of their plants and equipment. The National Corporation for Development, Conade, and the Energy and Mines Ministry will supervise the investments.

Decree No. 649 seeks to eliminate the state monopoly on electricity production and distribution. It authorizes Electroperu [Peruvian State Electric Power Enterprise] to sell to private organizations its shares in the Southern Electric Power Enterprise, the Southeast Electric Power Enterprise, the East Electric Power Enterprise, the Central Electric Power Enterprise, the South Middle Electric Power Enterprise, the North Middle Electric Power Enterprise, and the Southwest Electric Power Company, which handle electric services at the regional level.

Decree No. 655 authorizes Petroperu [State Petroleum Agency] to negotiate and sign contracts with national and foreign investors, enabling them to participate in the company's operations. It also allows all activities related to hydrocarbons such as marketing, importation, production, refinery, and basic petro-chemistry to be done by private organizations, thus eliminating Petroperu's monopoly.

Decree No. 675 incorporates the Marketing Company of Mining Products of Mineroperu within the scope of Decree No. 647 by which foreign investors can invest in it. The reduced state holding, less than 51 percent, will continue to be under Conade's name.

Decree No. 693 authorizes the issuance of negotiable stocks and bonds to promote foreign and domestic savings for financing investments in the electricity industry with the proper guarantees. Private enterprises may participate in the electricity sector through a system of concessions. The marketing of energy will be completely free. The establishment of electricity companies is promoted in all regions. It will be up to the Electricity Rates Commission to establish consumer rates.

Decree No. 708 declares the promotion of investments in mining activities of national interest. The Investment

Promotion Law encompasses: basic benefits, guarantees and investment promotion measures in mining activities, simple management measures, and measures regarding the environment and mining investments.

Decree No. 730 states that Peruvian private investments are hereby promoted by liberating national contractors from Paragraph "F" of Article 9 of Legislative Decree No. 655; by repealing Paragraph "G" from the same legislative decree; and by abolishing the requirements of a previous approval for the temporary entrance of assets for exclusive use in hydrocarbon activity. It also establishes that every company that signs exploitation and/or exploitation contracts [previous four words as published] with Petroperu will be checked before being registered in the Hydrocarbons Public Registry.

Industry, Commerce, and Tourism

Decree No. 658 establishes the creation of an Assessment Commission to oversee those institutions that issue quality certificates on products. It establishes that quality certificates may be issued by properly authorized public institutions or by qualified and previously authorized private institutions that must be approved by the Assessment Commission.

Decree No. 671 authorizes the Tacna Free Zone Managing Board, Zotac, to control the entrance and exit of merchandise and to fulfill all customs duties at the Santa Rosa border complex and at all the Tacna-Arica railroad loading and unloading facilities. Moreover, it will establish the service rates and control the small-scale trade system [pacotilla].

Decree No. 687 authorizes the tourism industry to grant licenses for the exploitation of medicinal waters for tourism purposes to both national and foreign private enterprises. It also compels the Health Ministry to provide all existing information on medicinal water sources.

Decree No. 691 regulates the advertisement and publicity of goods and services through the media. It particularly regulates the televised advertisement of alcoholic beverages and tobacco, which may be aired only from 2200 to 0600. Violations of this regulation will be subject to diverse punishments, including fines and the suspension of publicity campaigns.

Decree No. 698 empowers the national industry to grant concessions for the exploitation of casinos as part of a national tourist attraction. The casinos cannot be located less than 200 meters from schools, churches, Armed Forces barracks, or hospitals and health centers. The profits generated by these casinos will be invested as follows: 20 percent will go to the National Institute of Family Welfare, Inabif; 20 percent will go to social emergency programs of the region where the casino is located; 30 percent will go to the regional government where the casino is located; and 30 percent will go to social works of the municipal district where the casino is located.

Decree No. 704 puts in order and unifies current legislation on industrial, tourist and commercial free zones, and promotes private investment in these areas.

Decree No. 705 defines a micro-enterprise and a small business. It also establishes that the Industry and Commerce Ministry and the Labor Ministry will appoint a promotion team to grant free legal and business advice to those businessmen who request it. The decree also establishes administrative measures and pardons so that small businesses and micro-enterprises may join the formal economy. It also instructs the Housing Ministry and the Industry Ministry to start building "Regional Industrial Parks for Micro-Enterprises and Small Businesses."

Decree No. 706 authorizes the operation of tourist establishments under a "shared ownership" system. It authorizes an individual to exploit a tourist establishment for up to 30 years under a shared ownership system. These establishments seek to promote domestic and international tourism.

Decree No. 715 empowers the deputy minister of domestic trade [title as published] to summon, promote and hold national, regional, and local fairs as a means of promoting technology, free trade, new markets, regional trade, cultural assets, and the supply of capital and consumer goods.

Decree No. 716 states that individuals and legally recognized private and public organizations that have establishments devoted to the production or marketing of goods or services are subject to this decree which seeks to protect consumers who are either persons or legally recognized organizations who acquire and use these goods and services. This decree encompasses consumer rights, the obligations of suppliers, the information that must be included when offering goods and services, credit for consumers, responsibilities to consumers, and violations and punishments.

Decree No. 729 establishes the operation of Regional Industrial Labor Training Centers, Serati [Servicios Regionales de Adiestramiento en Trabajao Industrial], which was created by Legislative Decree No. 596 and suspended by Legislative Decree No. 608 because it lacks an allocation in the current budget. This situation will remain unchanged according to this decree. In view of this, the enforcement of Article 42 of Legislative Decree No. 608 is hereby extended.

Interior

Decree No. 694 states that the Health Services of the Peruvian National Police [PNP], as a support organization, is included in the PNP structure and it is subordinated to the PNP general directorate. In those areas declared in state of emergency, the PNP Health Service will help the civilian population in coordination with the political-military commands.

Decree No. 703 reinforces the 1931 law on migration status, visas and authorizations, entrance, permanence,

residence, changes in migration status, visas, exits and entrances, political asylum and refugees, rights and obligations, punishments, and the duties and responsibilities of authorities and officials.

Decree No. 732 states that each institution within the Armed Forces and within the National Police will have a military or police housing fund for the benefit of its active-duty personnel, retired personnel, or personnel with pending assignments, especially if they are disabled personnel or their relatives.

Decree No. 735 states that the Civil Defense System will now be named the National System of Civil Defense [Sistema Nacional de Defensa Civil], Sinadeci, which will be made up of the National Institute of Civil Defense [Instituto Nacional de Defensa Civil], Indeci; regional civil defense directorates; regional, subregional, provincial, and district civil defense committees; regional and subregional civil defense offices; and sectorial, institutional, and state-run enterprise civil defense offices. Indeci will be the central organ that controls and directs the Sinadeci, organizes the people, and coordinates, plans, and controls civil defense activities.

Decree No. 737 states that the salaries earned by Armed Forces or police personnel who are disabled while on duty or as a consequence of duty will be increased to the level of the next immediate rank. This salary increase will be implemented every five years, as of the date on which the disabling injury was sustained. The president may authorize special promotions of up to the third immediately following rank based on acts of merit during or following the disabling injury. The same procedure will be followed in the case of pensions granted to relatives of personnel who die while combating terrorism or drug trafficking.

Decree No. 740 states that the peasant self-defense patrols recognized under the terms of Law No. 24571, and that are located in zones that were declared in a state of emergency and are under Armed Forces control, may purchase—or may receive as a donation from the state or from private individuals—12-gauge, triple zero [not further identified] hunting weapons, or others, with prior authorization from the Armed Forces Joint Command. The weapons will be used only for the community's self defense, for combating infiltration by terrorists or drug traffickers, for defense against terrorists' and drug traffickers' attacks, and for supporting the Armed Forces and the National Police.

Decree No. 741 states that the self-defense committees are organizations that were created freely and spontaneously to engage in community self-defense activities, to prevent terrorist infiltration, to repel attacks from subversives, and to support the Armed Forces and the National Police. These committees are provisional. The Armed Forces' Joint Command will organize self-defense committees and establish the duties, rights, and restrictions affecting them.

Decree No. 742 states that as of now, National Police members being tried by military courts will be housed in prisons run by the Inpe [National Institute of Prisons].

Decree No. 744 states that the reformulation of Title 3 of Decree No. 371 affects the organic structure, the command, and the consultative, advisory, control, support, executive, and provincial operational organs of the National Police. The General Directorate is the top PNP commanding organ. The director general is the PNP commander; he is responsible for training, development, discipline, and operations. The post will be held by a PNP lieutenant general on active duty who will be designated by the president of the Republic.

Decree No. 745 considers the need to fight terrorism and drug trafficking—which jeopardize national security and the state of law—with full observance of human rights. This decree amends the National Police Personnel Law, redefining rights and duties as a function of category, hierarchy, rank, and functions.

Decree No. 753 includes articles on the content, guidelines, and the enforcement of the comprehensive strategy for peasants and their properties; the legal framework for establishing a market economy to promote alternative development; alternative activities in infrastructure works and services; the state's intervention; the right of ownership of rural land in the special zones; the people's participation; and the Alternative Development Institute [Instituto de Desarrollo Alternativo], Idea. This autonomous public institution will report to the president of the Council of Ministers, which in turn will conduct the general strategy established by this decree.

Decree No. 761 states that whoever supplies, carries, keeps, uses, or is in possession of any firearms or ammunition that belong to the state and is destined for use by the Armed Forces or the police will be imprisoned for between eight and 15 years. In addition, his civil rights will be suspended.

Justice.

Decree No. 654 has 10 chapters that refer to the internal sector, the penitentiary system, penitentiary treatment, penitentiary establishments, the implementation of sentences that restrict freedom, the implementation of sentences that limit freedom, post-penitentiary assistance, penitentiary personnel, the National Penitentiary Institute, and final and transitory regulations.

Decree No. 665 states that prosecutors who work in the emergency zones are authorized to enter police stations, prefectures, military installations, and any other detention center to check the situation of persons that have been detained or have been denounced as missing. The Interior and Defense Ministries will ensure the prosecutors the necessary means to carry out their mission. In turn, the provincial prosecutors will submit to the National Prosecutor's Office a monthly report on the human rights situation within their jurisdictions.

Decree No. 681 defines the micro-formatting, micro-duplication, micro-printing, and the micro-archiving of documents. It also outlines the role of the notary public and the legal aspects of their activities. It also permits cashed checks to be returned periodically to clients after being marked.

Decree No. 731 states that the Penal Code will enter into force on 1 May 1994, with the exception of Articles 2, 135, 136, 145, and 182 to 188, which will go into force as soon as this decree is published [in the Official Gazette]. It also creates a high-level commission that will install the organizations necessary to implement the legislative decree and train its members. The commission will be made up of the supreme penal prosecutor, the superior penal prosecutor, the provincial penal prosecutor, and representatives from the Judicial Branch and the Justice, Economy, and Interior Ministries.

Decree No. 736 modifies Articles 296-A and 296-B of the Penal Code in the following terms: anyone involved in the investment, sale, pawning, transfer, or possession of profits or assets resulting from drug trafficking, when their origin is known to or even suspected by the agent, will be punished with between five and 10 years in prison and disqualified from exercising certain rights for between 120 and 300 days. Anyone who purchases, keeps, guards, hides, or receives said profits, assets, or benefits, knowing and/or suspecting their illegal origin will receive a similar sentence. Anyone laundering money that comes from drugs or narcoterrorism through the purchase of other assets, or who transfers it to other countries through banking and financial systems, or who repatriates it in such a way as to hide its origin, its ownership, or any other potentially illegal factors will be imprisoned for between six and 12 years. The case will considered to be very serious if despite the sentence the agent continues to participate in the banking or financial systems. The sentence will be doubled if said crimes are linked to terrorist activities.

Decree No. 747 states that with the modification of Article 404 of the Penal Code, anyone helping a person to elude or hide from penal procedures, prison sentences, or any other measure handed down by the courts will be imprisoned for between two and four years. But, if the suspect commits crimes against public order, the state, national defense, state branches, constitutional order, or involving the illegal traffic of drugs, the sentence for being an accessory to the crime will be between seven and 10 years. If the accessory is an official or a public servant charged with investigating the crime or responsible for the custody of a criminal, the sentence will be between 10 and 15 years.

Decree No. 748 establishes the benefits that members of subversive organizations will receive if they voluntarily decide to give up violence and collaborate with the authorities by providing information that will lead to the dismantling of other subversive cells and the arrest of their members. Those who decide to take advantage of this measure will have their sentences reduced by up to two-thirds or have them entirely annulled in accordance with the level of information that they provide.

Decree No. 764 states that the Penal Code will go into force on 1 May 1994, with the exception of Articles 2, 135, 136, 138, 143, 145, and 182 to 188, which will take effect when this decree is promulgated.

Decree No. 652 recommends the presentation of a National Pacification Plan. It creates the Peace Council, which will have its headquarter in Lima, and regional peace councils at the national level. The council will be made up of a general assembly, an executive committee, and a general secretariat. The members of the assembly will include the following representatives: one from each of the political groups registered in the Electoral Board, one from each of the labor unions, one from each of the professional organizations, one from the Lima Lawyers Association, two from the National Assembly of Rectors, two from Confiep [National Confederation of Private Business], one from the Radio and Television Association, one from the Newspapers Association, one from Conaco [National Confederation of Merchants], one from the federation of small industries, one representing small exporting companies, one representing small mines, one from each of the registered peasant organizations, one from the confederation of cooperatives, one from the Federation of Peruvian Students, one from the Catholic students organization, one from the evangelic association, one from the Association of Officer Generals, one from the retired policemen's organization, one from the National Human Rights Coordinating Board, one from the Parents Association, one from the Coordinating Commission of Survival Organizations, one from the Evangelic National Council, one from the Israeli Union of Peru, one from the pastors of the independent Baptist evangelic churches, one from the Pentecostal Missionary Church, and one from the Catholic Church on a voluntary basis.

Fisheries

Decree No. 750 states that the promotion of fishing and water-related activities are in the national interest. This includes the rational exploitation of hydrobiological resources, cooperation for solving the Peruvian food problem, the full occupation of our jurisdictional waters with a modern fishing fleet, encouragement to export fishing products, the development of new technology, the fomentation of construction and the modernization of fishing and water infrastructure, and the support of small-scale fishing and water-related activities.

Health

Decree No. 718 states that workers will be able to choose the health system they prefer. The workers under the IPSS [Peruvian Institute of Social Security] can remain in this organization or change. To do that they must give a contribution of solidarity and report their transfer to their employer. The Superintendency of the Health Service Organizations, OSS, is created to supervise and

watch over the quality of services offered by the health service organizations, which will manage the Private Health System, SPS. The workers who decide to join the SPS will pay 8 percent of their insurable salary minus the appropriate deduction for the IPSS. Every OSS will offer various health programs and loans.

Decree No. 724 creates the Private Pension System, which will complement the National Pension System under the IPSS. The Pension Fund Administrators, AFP, will control the Private Pension System. The AFP will provide pensions for retirement, disablement, survival, and other benefits similar to the pension system currently provided by the IPSS. All workers have the right to choose the pension system they prefer but those currently in the IPSS system can choose to remain in it. The decree has chapters related to workers' freedom to choose, pension funds, the AFP, contributions, loans, control, and the Classifying Commission for Investments, in addition to complementary and temporary regulations.

Labor

Decree No. 650. This decree obliges enterprises to deposit every six months, with a canceling effect, the pay for the time of accumulated service in the bank or financial organization selected by the worker. This compensation is a social benefit to be used as a precaution against the problems that could originate from being fired from work. It excludes the workers who are receiving 30 percent or more of the amount of the rates that the public pays for services, the employees who receive 5 percent or more of an enterprise's net profits, and the workers who are subject to special working conditions.

Decree No. 688. It grants the workers a life insurance policy paid by the employer and it becomes effective after four years of service have been completed. As an option, the employer can take out a life insurance for his worker after three months of service. In the case of a worker becoming incapacitated, he can collect the insured capital in place of what would have been paid if he died. The spouse or common-law spouse of the worker are those who benefit from this insurance. The compensation for the time of service equivalent to 30 percent of the worker's total computable salary also is implemented.

Decree No. 689 obliges all employers, no matter what nationality, to preferentially hire Peruvian workers. National enterprises can take on foreign personnel for up to 20 percent of their total number of employees. These workers' salaries cannot exceed 30 percent of the total of salaries and wages. This decree also contemplates exemptions for foreign workers.

Decree No. 692 authorizes employers to introduce modifications in their personnel's work schedules with the objective of increasing production and productivity. Agreements between employers and their workers can be implemented in order to do so.

Decree No. 711. The restrictions that some professionals had in order to carry out their jobs and that necessarily required them to be registered with a professional chamber, in addition to a national chamber in determined jurisdictions, now have been lifted for administrative simplification. In addition, the fee of those who wish to register has been eliminated.

Decree No. 712 eliminates the monopoly that existed regarding the service of official translations and that prevented those who graduated from language courses at universities from working independently. In this respect, it limits the number of official translators for Lima and El Callao, it will be the Foreign Ministry that will take the oath of the translators, and it also will sanction them and withdraw their authorization if deemed necessary.

Decree No. 713 consolidates the social benefits of the worker, such as the weekly resting period, non-working holidays, and paid annual vacations. It establishes that the worker who works on a rest day or a holiday will receive 100 percent of his salary as premium pay. In the case where a worker works during his vacation period, he will receive the equivalent of 15 days in advance of his normal pay.

Decree No. 760. Article 1e will now state: In the cases where it is obligatory to be registered with a chamber and in order to exercise a profession throughout the national territory, it will be enough to register with a chamber in any jurisdiction, with the exception of national chambers. And Article 2 will state: That in order to exercise their work in jurisdictions other than the one in which they usually reside and where they are formally authorized to work, the professionals who have the card issued by their respective chamber in order to exercise their profession will have to obtain authorization from the chamber where they plan to work.

Decree No. 763. Registering under Decree No. 20530, Pension Scheme, in violation of Article 14 of said decree is prohibited, with the exception of the cases contemplated under Laws Nos. 25146, 25129, and 25273.

Decree No. 765. Basically it contains the following modifications: In the case where the nonessential formalities of firing are not observed, the judge can order the temporary rehiring of the worker without this inhibiting the judge from handing down a decision on the affair's basic matter; and, regarding the termination of work contracts due to substantial causes, they will be subject to a new procedure contained in this decree.

Decree No. 640 declares the free use of roads and the authorization to operate along them. It eliminates restrictions and obstacles that prevent the entry of new concessionaires to the different roads for the interprovincial transport service. It also authorizes the Transport Ministry to establish the requirements and procedures to guarantee the security and quality of service.

Decree No. 642 eliminates the monopolistic and restrictive procedures within free competition, and puts the

transport, passenger, and cargo tariffs at the market's disposal. It also states the need to improve services by promoting competition.

Decree No. 644 considers as national shipping enterprises those that were created in the country. It empowers them to operate on any road and to offer all sorts of international transportation services. It states that the purchase, rental, or sale of ships has to be reported to the General Directorate of Maritime Transport.

Decree No. 645 allows any private enterprise or cooperative of workers to carry out any task in all Peruvian ports, thus ending the monopoly that prevailed in the ports. It sets forth that enterprises and cooperatives will have to comply with the technical rules related to the maritime works, and that the workers will be subject to the laws governing cooperatives and private activities.

Decree No. 648 authorizes private investors to invest in Aeroperu [Peruvian State Airlines] and the state to reduce its participation in this company so that investments can help Aeroperu become a more competitive company.

Decree No. 651 declares free access to all roads for urban and interurban buses authorized by provincial councils. It eliminates restrictions on access to these roads and establishes free competition in public service tariffs. It authorizes any person to offer passenger services in any type of vehicle but only on exceptional occasions.

Decree No. 660 establishes that the maritime transport of imported or exported cargo contracted by public institutions as of the date of the decree will no longer be controlled by the Maritime Works Control Commission [CCTM], including the Maritime and Fluvial Works Offices. It finally declares CCTM's dissolution as a priority in order to expedite free maritime trade.

Decree No. 669 provides for free competition in the transport and communications field. It declares the dissolution of the Transportation Fares Regulatory Committee, whose assets and personnel will be placed at the disposal of the Transport and Communications Ministry.

Decree No. 670 eliminates all the steps and limitations on the investment of private, national, or foreign capital in civil aviation. It is established that the import, export, purchase, or sale of aircraft will not require previous authorization, and will not need to be registered at the aircraft public registry. The authorizations will be granted by the Transport and Communications Ministry.

Decree No. 676 authorizes the Transport and Communications Ministry to declare of public need the reopening and maintenance of roads, for which private enterprises are granted concessions to repair them. It also allows the installment of toll booths along the roads.

Decree No. 678. A transitory law provides that the Transport Ministry will continue to be subject to Decree No. 19020 until a new general law on telecommunications is promulgated.

Decree No. 679 establishes that Corpac will be charged with the tasks and commitments of customs in airports nationwide. It states that any measure against a passenger at an airport must be taken with the approval of the manager and in the presence of Corpac personnel.

Decree No. 683 clears the trade maritime routes in national ports to ships flying the Peruvian flag, and establishes that foreign ships and maritime enterprises will be able to engage in international transport.

Decree No. 684. This decree creates cargo depots in the interior as a mechanism to strengthen trade in the areas of the country that do not have loading and unloading facilities. These depots will be subject to the control of the National Customs Superintendency, Sunad. The Transport and Communications Ministry also is authorized to grant licenses to either private or state enterprises for the construction of these depots. It also states that all merchandise that is moved under the intermodal transport system must be exported without exception.

Decree No. 685 prohibits any type of monopoly or restrictive practices in the postal service and, at the same time, frees the service. Thus any individual or legally constituted organization may provide this service, for which rules and regulations are established for the concession of the service, which will be granted by contract, without calling a public tender, for a period of no longer than 20 years. Peruvian Postal Services Inc. [Servicios Postales del Peru S.A.], Serpost S.A., also is created.

Decree No. 690 prohibits monopolistic and restrictive actions in the railway sector, which is divided in two: the service of construction and refurbishment and maintenance. The Transport and Communications Ministry is authorized to call for tenders for the concession of stretches of rail where considered necessary. It also declares that the National Railway Enterprise, Enafer, is currently under reorganization.

Decree No. 702. In order to neutralize the influence of subversion with the support of the media, and in order to eliminate monopolistic, controllable, and restrictive practices of free enterprise to increase private investment, the development of telecommunications for national pacification is declared a public prerequisite, and therefore it is necessary to attract national and foreign private investment.

Decree No. 707. With the necessity of developing foreign trade, emphasis is placed on efficient, opportune, rapid, and economic services, taking into account international guidelines [margenes], of general, maritime, river, and lacustrine agents, and cooperative enterprises of stevedores. And it is established that the industrial sector will direct, regulate, control, and supervise it.

Decree No. 714 institutes rules and regulations to improve the intermodal transportation of products and merchandise, including the services of loading and unloading merchandise in areas where this service does not exist. Always within the framework of making our foreign trade more competitive, it orders the National Customs Superintendency to control the so-called cargo depots system in the interior, where the loading and unloading services will be located.

Housing.

Decree No. 696. Private investment in urban refurbishment to stop deterioration and to seek its recovery and refurbishment is declared to be in the national interest. This task will be supervised by the Housing and Construction Ministry, regional governments, and provincial municipalities, which will establish projects and the areas to be processed. For housing projects the funds of the National Housing Fund, Fonavi, can be counted on.

Decree No. 697 authorizes the promotion of private investment in sanitary works such as potable water, sewage systems, drainage systems, and public cleanups, for which exploitation contracts will be drawn up and which will be implemented in accordance with prior feasibility studies that will be supervised by local governments.

Decree No. 709 orders that all rent contracts will be subject only to the Civil Code. It also authorizes banking and financial enterprises, including mutual benefit societies, to institute a system for financing property or "mutual rent societies," and it orders the deregulation of property and that municipalities will be charged with this task.

Decree No. 710. Within the need and respect for free enterprise, this decree permits national, foreign, or associated enterprises to submit bids in tenders for public workers, and that the contract be given to the enterprise that made the lowest bid, but also taking into account other pertinent facts such as the importance that each bidder gives to each contract.

Decree No. 727. Construction activities are hereby declared a public utility, and preferably in the national interest, and it establishes the rules and regulations that are directed toward the creation of appropriate conditions for the development of private investment in this sector. Individuals and legally constituted national and foreign organizations are included, which will dedicate themselves to or promote construction in accordance with Great Division Five of the UN Uniform International Industrial Classification, CIIU. The legislative decree includes rules and regulations pertaining to training, productivity, and construction enterprises with a limited investment.

Venezuela

Reportage on Economic Protests, Response

Teachers' Unions To Demonstrate

PA0412144391 Mexico City NOTIMEX in Spanish 1834 GMT 3 Dec 91

[Text] Caracas, 3 Dec (NOTIMEX)—On 3 December, amid opposition reports of a "power vacuum" in Venezuela, teachers' unions called for a march on 4 December to protest the government's economic program.

The march is "to defend public education from repression and to defend collective bargaining. This new protest occurs at a time when student demonstrations have been shaking the country for the past two months. [no ending quotation mark as received]

Teachers' union leaders have reported that textile and media workers, university students, and nongovernment human rights organizations have confirmed their attendance at the peaceful demonstration that will end in the center of Caracas.

The protest will coincide with President Carlos Andres Perez' return from the Rio Group summit held in Cartagena, Colombia.

The president's international trips—approximately 50 in almost three years—have caused bitter disputes between the opposition and the government.

On 2 December, the main opposition Social Christian Party, COPEI, agreed to accelerate its actions "to overcome the power vacuum caused by President Perez' constant absence from the country."

It cautioned about the rumors of a possible military coup d'etat due to the increasing deterioration of living conditions in the country.

"We have to increase our opposition without fearing that the winds of a coup d'etat will develop into a storm," Paciano Padron, a COPEI leader stated.

According to media reports, former President Rafael Caldera (1969-1974) stated in Maracaibo, 700 km west of Caracas, that the president's trips "have exceeded the limits of what is reasonable and convenient."

On 2 December, four people were injured at antigovernment protests in the western city of Valencia and riots also occurred in Caracas and other regions where unidentified men—allegedly students—burned vehicles.

In the past two months, ten people have died, including six students, in demonstrations against Perez' social democratic economic measures.

The Education Ministry suspended classes after policemen killed three people in an attempt to repress a protest at a Caracas southeastern suburb on 20 November.

The domestic media has reported that the closing of schools has negatively affected approximately 3 million students at the middle and high school levels. It was reported that classes will probably resume January 1992.

The Interior Ministry and the leaders of the governing Democratic Action Party, AD, have stated the student demonstrations are manipulated by "hooded people," who destroy vehicles and promote clashes with the police.

AD leader David Morales warned of a possible "subversive regrouping" against the institutional order, but did not present evidence supporting his charges.

'Peaceful March' Draws 30,000

PA0412201591 Caracas Venezolana de Television Network in Spanish 1615 GMT 4 Dec 91

[Text] More than 30,000 teachers are staging a peaceful march from the teachers union headquarters in Paraiso to demand improvements in the social and economic clauses of the third collective contract. The teachers are also demanding that the police stop repressing students during demonstrations and equipment for the schools.

The teachers will march as far as Plaza del Venezolano. From there, a delegation will continue to the congress, where they will deliver a document containing their labor and educational demands.

Cabinet Meets Amid Protests

PA0512000091 Madrid EFE in Spanish 1859 GMT 4 Dec 91

[Text] Caracas, 4 Dec (EFE)—There were violent disturbances on 4 December in downtown Caracas when police and National Guardsmen stopped a group of Venezuelan teachers and students who were marching toward the National Congress.

Policemen and National Guardsmen used tear gas and bird shot to disperse the approximately 20,000 demonstrators. Although no serious injuries were reported, several demonstrators were treated for tear gas inhalation.

The incident occurred when demonstrators tried to march toward Congress and the Supreme Court of Justice building, both of which are protected by the National Guard.

According to the demonstrators' spokesmen, the peaceful march was called to protest the government's economic and educational policies. The demonstrators demanded changes in the government's economic policy, revision of Venezuela's foreign debt payments, improvements in health services, an increase in the school budget, and an end to police actions that have resulted in 10 deaths in the last two months.

Violent demonstrations also took place on 4 December in the University of Los Llanos in Barinas, a city 500 km south of Caracas, where students clashed with police.

The student disturbances began last September at the beginning of the academic year and spread to principal cities three weeks ago. The Education Ministry has decided to suspend all teaching activities.

[Hamburg DPA in Spanish at 2252 GMT on 4 December reports that "Venezuelan radio stations indicated that President Carlos Andres Perez, who is in Colombia, will hold a cabinet meeting immediately upon his arrival in Caracas on 4 December to adopt an emergency plan to stop the wave of street protests that has already left 10 dead in the past two months." The DPA report adds: "The disturbances in Caracas led to looting and thefts in many stores, but there were no deaths or injuries."]

Urban Guerrilla Groups Reportedly Reactivate

PA0512012591 Hamburg DPA in Spanish 1623 GMT 2 Dec 91

[Text] Caracas 2 December (DPA)—Former heads of the state security bodies have warned that the recent wave of street violence protesting the economic program of President Carlos Andres Perez could grow worse with the reappearance of urban guerrilla groups. These groups have been practically inactive in Venezuela in the past decade.

The Venezuelan daily EL NACIONAL, quoting Venezuelan police and Directorate of Military Intelligence (DIM) sources, reports that numerous guerrilla groups of approximately 2,000 men have started to operate in the main urban centers of other Venezuelan departments.

After a meeting called to analyze the wave of violent street protests currently taking place all over Venezuela, one of the sources stated that "the national government must take these reports seriously. It would be a serious mistake to believe that this type of activity could never take place in Venezuela again."

The recent wave of protests against police repression and the economic adjustment program of the social democratic government of President Carlos Andres Perez intensified two weeks ago into violent street disturbances in Caracas and several other cities. Six persons died and dozens were injured as a result of these protests.

The sources also reported that at least two guerrilla fronts allegedly linked to the Colombian Army of National Liberation (ELN) have renewed their activities. The two fronts have been able to attract new members and obtain additional money by robbing banking institutions located in rural areas of Venezuela, especially in the states of Zulia and Tachira on the border with Colombia.

The experts offered assurance, however, "that the democratic system is not yet in danger."

The street protests, held mainly by university and high school students, have begun a generalized atmosphere of tension. Well-known politicians and intellectuals have even warned of a possible military coup to halt the violence.

Venezuelan President Carlos Andres Perez on 2 December again ruled out the possibility of a de facto government in Venezuela, and asserted "that military coups are finished in Latin America," Venezuelan radio station "Radio Rumbos" reported.

Perez, who has been criticized for his numerous trips abroad while people are protesting in the country, has been in Cartagena since 1 December taking part in the Rio Group summit and the Andean Group's presidential meeting.

On 30 November, the students called for a peaceful march to be held in downtown Caracas on 4 December. They threatened to continue demonstrating if the government fails to satisfy all of their demands, which include canceling the gradual increase in gasoline prices and maintaining student preferential fares.

Guyana

Hoyte Meets With Attorney General on Election

FL2611185591 Bridgetown CANA in English 1832 GMT 26 Nov 91

[Text] Georgetown, Guyana, Nov 26, CANA—Guyana's Attorney-General Keith Massiah, recalled from the United States last week after it became clear that planned December 16 would have to be postponed, met President Desmond Hoyte on Monday for consultations on options available to the government, a well-placed source said.

In announcing the postponement of the elections, Hoyte told Guyanese in a broadcast last Friday that he would consult Massiah for advice on the legal and constitutional implications of the postponement in light of the expiry of the government's extended mandate at the end of December. The president, citing the possibility of a constitutional crisis or anarchy, also promised Guyanese to inform them, as soon as he had been advised by the Massiah, of the specific steps he would take "to preserve due constitutionality and to deal with the several political and other issues that are involved."

The postponement of the election resulted from the failure of the elections commission to correct a flawed preliminary voters list in time for the public to have sufficient time to scrutinise the final version. Opposition leaders had said the only course of action left for the president was to declare a state of emergency and recall Parliament which was dissolved at the end of September. However, Hoyte said there were no legal grounds for the declaration of a state of emergency.

Meanwhile, the state-owned CHRONICLE newspaper on Tuesday reported Prime Minister Hamilton Green as saying at at a public rally last Friday that Guyana will have a "legally constituted government on January 1, 1992."

"I can assure you that the People's National Congress (PNC) government will not allow anarchy to take hold on December 29 (when the government's extended mandate expires). Law and order and the rule of law will continue to exist on that day and onwards," Green, the deputy leader of the PNC, said.

President Hoyte is expected to address the nation again towards the end of the week.

Opposition Hails Decree, Election Reform

FL0212162191 Bridgetown CANA in English 1506 GMT 2 Dec 91

[Text] Georgetown, Guyana, Nov 29, CANA—The Working People's Alliance (WPA) in Guyana on Friday hailed a declaration of a state of emergency and moves to clean up the electoral process by the government here as a "new democratic explosion".

Guyana's President Desmond Hoyte on Thursday night gave in to opposition demands and declared a state of emergency aimed at legalising the postponement of elections beyond the December 28 period, when Guyana's constitutional deadline expires.

Hoyte, addressing the nation, also hinted that the Elections Commission could be granted full powers to recruit its own staff and exercise full control over the process, reorganise the state-run National Registration Centre, remove the existing NRC staff and replace them with new appointments.

"In the opinion of the WPA, we are once again in the presence of a new democratic explosion, comparably in effect, to the October reforms and the April accord," Dr Rupert Roopnarine, WPA prime ministerial candidate, told CANA Friday.

Former United States President Jimmy Carter last year triggered off sweeping and unprecedented electoral reforms including the historic counting of ballots at polling stations and the scrapping of the flawed 1990 election list to be replaced by one compiled through house to house registration.

Opposition parties won more historic reforms brokered again by the Atlanta-based Carter Center last April, when the Center persuaded the Hoyte administration to reconstitute the Elections Commission and appoint a new chairman chosen from a list put by the opposition.

"President Hoyte has, in effect, announced the measures that the WPA and other opposition parties had been pressing for," Roopnarine said.

He cited the cleaning up of the list, and the elections machinery, and the issuing of identification cards to all eligible Guyanese voters as examples.

"These are all extremely crucial measures and of course the WPA is extremely pleased that a process that had been clearly derailed by the announcement of December 16 as the date for the elections now seems to be back on course," the WPA deputy leader said.

Opposition leader, Dr Cheddi Jagan, said he was "glad" that Hoyte used his powers to declare a state of emergency and to reconvene Parliament.

He was happy, too, that the president moved to take the necessary steps to implement Carter Center reforms calling for cleaning up of voters list, full powers to the Commission and voter identification.

"I am glad that finally the president has decided that the Commission will have all the powers and I hope that this will be done by the president using his powers to transfer all the people against whom a vote of no confidence had been taken," Jagan, a former premier, told CANA.

Jagan, 73, called for a national voter identification card similar to that used in Jamaica, where he said it is destroyed, or taken away after voters have cast their ballots.

This, he said, is aimed at eliminating duplication and impersonation in the elections.

All opposition parties are to meet shortly to discuss what administrative and legal steps they would like to see instituted, jagan reported.

The People's Progressive Party leader warned that unless "everybody" co-operates, Guyana may not have a list which generates total voter confidence.

Jagan's PPP, like the WPA, is reconsidering re-entering Parliament.

Assembly To Reconvene, Validate Poll

FL0312011091 Bridgetown CANA in English 2200 GMT 2 Dec 91

[Text] Georgetown, Guyana, Dec 2, CANA—The Guyana parliament, dissolved two months ago in preparation for the now-postponed December 16 elections, will be reconvened on Tuesday to pass legislation validating President Desmond Hoyte's decision to put back the poll, officials said.

The elections were postponed after Elections Commission Chairman Rudy Collins informed President Hoyte that an accurate final voters list could not be produced in time to allow sufficient public scrutiny ahead of the vote.

In a broadcast last Thursday in which he announced the postponement and declared a state of emergency, Hoyte said: "It will be the task of the reconvened parliament to enact legislation to postpone the election and to deal with all ancillary and related matters which might arise in connection with such a decision."

The reconvened National Assembly initially will be made up of parliamentarians of the ruling People's National Congress (PNC) following the resignation of the three parliamentary opposition parties earlier in the year to highlight election-related grievances.

However, Hoyte told the nation last Thursday that his government would propose a bill to facilitate the return to parliament of the People's Progressive Party (PPP), the Working People's Alliance (WPA), and The United Force (TUF).

Hoyte added: "In my opinion, it is virtually important that these former members should be given an opportunity to contribute to the crucial decisions that the parliament would have to make to ensure that all reasonable arrangements are put in place for the holding of an election, as early as practicable, that would satisfy the highest norms of transparency and due regularity and the just expectations of the Guyanese people."

Both the WPA and PPP said they would have to reconsider returning to Parliament. Both are requesting copies of the legislation before making a decision.

Bill Passed To Restore Opposition Seats

FL0412030891 Bridgetown CANA in English 2148 GMT 3 Dec 91

[Report by Urrell Wilkinson]

[Text] Georgetown, Guyana, Dec 3, CANA - Guyana's prorogued Parliament, recalled to legalise postponement of elections beyond a December 28 constitutional deadline, Tuesday passed a bill to allow opposition members to return to the Assembly. Attorney General Keith Massiah piloted through all its stages the constitutional Amendment (number 3) Bill 1991, providing that opposition members who withdrew from Parliament last year be allowed to take up their seats.

With the elections commission unable to prepare an acceptable voters list by a December 16 election date or within the December 28 deadline, President Desmond Hoyte last Thursday proclaimed a state of emergency and recalled Parliament from Tuesday to enact laws to allow postponement of elections to next year.

"Our Constitution is not capacitated for postponing elections, although it provides for the recall of Parliament in the time when elections shall be held," said Massiah, sole speaker in the brief session before the House adjourned to December 11.

Massiah, also Legal Affairs minister, said the reconvening of Parliament could only be done through the common law of civil doctrine: "This doctrine permits a state to take exceptional measures to deal with an urgent or abnormal situation of imminent peril for the salvation

of the state, where no constitutional provision permits action." It was not unusual that Guyana's Constitution may not have provided for every eventuality, including the present situation, Massiah said, citing similar cases in Pakistan, France, and elsewhere.

Massiah said the recalled Parliament was a "necessity," made possible by the "vast constitutional and common law powers" of the president: "We meet today in very extraordinary and challenging circumstances. It is at a critical time in the history of our country."